

Homonyms, Homographs, and Homophones

Homonyms: Words that have the same spelling and same pronunciation, but different meanings.

Directions: Choose (a) or (b)



Example: I hope you are not *lying* (a) to me.
My books are *lying* (b) on the table.

(a) telling a lie
(b) being in a horizontal position

1. The kids are going to *watch* TV tonight.
What time is it? I have to set my *watch* .
(a) small clock worn on the wrist
(b) look at
2. Which *page* is the homework on?
Please *page* the doctor if you need help.
(a) one sheet of paper
(b) to call someone on an electronic pager
3. Let's *play* soccer after school.
The author wrote a new *play* .
(a) participate in a sport
(b) theater piece
4. Ouch! The mosquito *bit* me!
I'll have a little *bit* of sugar in my tea.
(a) a tiny amount
(b) past tense of bite
5. My rabbits are in a *pen* outside.
Please sign this form with a black *pen* .
(a) a writing instrument which uses ink
(b) an enclosed area

Homographs: Words that have the same spelling, but different pronunciations and meanings.

Directions: Choose (a) or (b)



Example: The *wind* (a) is blowing hard.
I have to *wind* (b) my clock.

(a) moving air (rhymes with *pinned*)
(b) turn the stem (rhymes with *find*)

1. The singer made a low *bow* to the audience.
Maria placed a red *bow* on the birthday gift.
(a) decorative ribbon (rhymes with *so*)
(b) bend at the waist (rhymes with *how*)
2. All the students are *present* today.
The boss will *present* the award at 10:00.
(a) here (rhymes with *pleasant*)
(b) give (rhymes with *resent*)
3. Please *close* the door.
The boy sat *close* to his uncle.
(a) near (rhymes with *dose*)
(b) shut (rhymes with *toes*)
4. The rope was *wound* around his ankles.
The soldier received a *wound* in the battle.
(a) tied around (rhymes with *pound*)
(b) an injury (rhymes with *moon*)
5. I don't know if I will *live* or die.
Last night I saw the band play *live* in concert.
(a) to have life (rhymes with *give*)
(b) in real time performance (rhymes with *hive*)

Homophones: Words that have the same pronunciation, but different spelling and different meanings.

Directions: Choose the correct word.

Example: Please try not to (**waste**, **waist**) paper.



1. Can I go to the party (**to**, **too**, **two**)?
2. This is my favorite (**pare**, **pair**, **pear**) of jeans.
3. I (**sent**, **scent**, **cent**) a letter to my aunt in Vietnam.
4. The children got (**bored**, **board**) during the lecture.
5. Mr. and Mrs. Rodriguez like to work in (**there**, **they're**, **their**) garden.
6. Alec is going to (**wear**, **ware**) his work boots today.
7. Do you think it is going to (**rein**, **rain**, **reign**) this afternoon?
8. I saw a restaurant just off the (**rode**, **road**) about a mile back.
9. David's brother is in a (**band**, **banned**) which plays Russian music.
10. Juana wants her socks because her (**tows**, **toes**) are cold.
11. The teacher walked down the (**aisle**, **isle**) between the rows of desks.
12. Hadil has a (**pane**, **pain**) in her shoulder.
13. The school (**principal**, **principle**) spoke to a group of parents.
14. The clerk wants to (**sell**, **cell**) as many TVs as possible.
15. I don't want to talk about the (**passed**, **past**) anymore.
16. Nobody (**knows**, **nose**) what you are thinking.
17. I have (**for**, **four**, **fore**) dollars in my pocket.
18. I need to take a (**break**, **brake**) from this exercise!
19. Humans have hands. Dogs have (**paws**, **pause**).
20. (**He'll**, **Heel**, **Heal**) be here in a few minutes.