Homonyms

Homonyms are sets of words that are pronounced the same but have different meanings. Homonyms usually come in pairs such as ate and eight but may come in sets of three such as to, too, and two. Below are a few homonym pairs that are common in writing.

air	heir
bald	bawled
bear	bare
berry	bury
peal	peel
pore	pour
boar	bore
blue	blew
bough	bow
principle	principal

Look for homonyms in your own writing or reading assignments to see if you can spot them.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Worksheet 1

Circle the pair of homonyms in each sentence.

1. The patients started to lose their patience with the doctors.
2. The bee will soon be extinct if we do not protect them.
3. When the mist finally cleared it was missed by some.
4. The principals shared the basic principles of their lesson before starting.
5. The bear had a bare spot from rubbing against the tree.
6. Will you meet me at ten to pick out the type of meat for the sandwiches?
7. We ate at eight last night because we were home so late.
8. The bald man bawled when he found out his hair would not grow back.
9. The tiny hare had the fluffiest hair I had ever seen.
10. Are you bored enough to pound nails into this board?
11. The nun would have none of the loud music.
12. I read all the words written in red.
13. Please walk by the shop and buy three lemons then say bye to the owner.
14. We rode horses up and down the road all day.
15. We are sealing the ceiling with a special compound.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Choose the correct homonym to complete each sentence.

1. (Which, Witch) way did the bird fly when you let it go?
2. I adore the (scent, sent) or the grass after a summer rain.
3. Do you prefer (cereal, serial) or toast for breakfast?
4. (Choose, Chews) the (close, clothes) you want to wear to the party.
5. When you go down the road stay to the (right, write).
6. Make sure to give the oncoming cars a wide (birth, berth) as the road is small.
7. Did you (brake, break) the vase when you threw the ball?
8. We will go (through, threw) all your old clothing later today.
9. When you go to jail you are locked in a (sell, cell).
10. Young birds make a unique (cheep, cheap) sound.
11. The goal of business is to make a (prophet, profit).
12. Are you going to paint your room (blew, blue) or red?
13. Some people (prey, pray) before every meal.
14. When you buy hay it comes in a (bail, bale).
15. Would you mind to (pour, pore) me a glass of juice?
16. You should not (meddle, medal) in other people's private business.
17. The high king will (rain, reign) over all his loyal subjects.
18. Do you know which finger you wear a wedding (ring, wring) on?
19. Please enter the building through the (mane, main) entrance.
20. Will you (lone, loan) me twenty dollars.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

There are common homonyms used daily. Homonyms like to, two, and too, Their, there, and they're, and which and witch are commonly confused. Choose which of these words fits in each sentence.

1. We will go (to, too, two) the library right after we finish playing at the park.

2. (Their, They're, There) will be a short break before the play continues.

3. There are (too, to, two) different books I want to read this weekend.

4. I will be going to the movies at six will you be going (two, too, to)?

5. We will place the new table over (there, their, they're).

6. Today is the day that (there, their, they're) going to bring the new swing set.

7. The scary green (which, witch) flew over the roof on a broom.

8. Do you know (witch, which) classroom you will be in this year?

9. (Which, Witch) (witch, which) will you draw for the Halloween poster?

10. (There, Their, They're) is nothing that could stop me from being at the party.

11. There are (two, too, to) dogs running loose on the grounds.

12. Are the (to, too, two) of you going to be at the meeting on Sunday?

13. We will be going (to, too, two) the museum on Friday (to, too, two).

14. (There, Their, They're) leaving to catch a plane at seven in the morning.

15. The snow is (to, too, two) heavy for the branches, they will break.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Draw a line to connect the homonym pairs.

1. Pair	Prey
2. Patience	Principle
3. Praise	Pear
4. Pray	Patients
5. Principal	Prays
6. Profit	Prophet
7. Rain	Site
8. Rap	Seen
9. Right	I
10. Ring	Sail
11. Road	Rows
12. Role	So
13. Rose	Course
14. Sale	Fare
15. Scene	Wring
16. Sea	Rite
17. Seam	Roll
18. Sew	Rode
19. Sight	Seem
20. Coarse	Reign
21. Eye	Wrap
22. Fair	See

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Complete each sentence with the correct homonym.

Flu 1. I saw an enormous bird as it _____ over the house.

Flew 2. I caught the _____ after attending the concert.

One 1. We are all on _____ team, we must work together.

Won 2. We _____ the final game of the competition.

None 1. We saw the _____ leaving the convent.

Nun 2. _____ of the cookies I made turned out right.

Bear 1. I looked for a snack but the cupboard was _____.

Bare 2. A large black _____ was wondering around on the highway.

Heir 1. Would you like to step outside and get some _____.

Air 2. Because he is the only surviving son he is the _____ to everything.

Loan 1. Would you _____ me some cash so I can get a gift?

Lone 2. He was considered a _____ wolf because he preferred to be alone.

Bee 1. Will you _____ going to the museum with the class?

Be 2. The _____ buzzed around the flowers looking for food.

LIVEWORKSHEETS