

# 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. (a) telling a lie  
 My books are *lying* (b) on the table. (b) being in a horizontal position
- The kids are going to *watch* \_\_\_ TV tonight. (a) small clock worn on the wrist  
 What time is it? I have to set my *watch* \_\_\_\_\_. (b) look at
  - Which *page* \_\_\_\_\_ is the homework on? (a) one sheet of paper  
 Please *page* \_\_\_\_\_ the doctor if you need help. (b) to call someone on an electronic pager
  - Let's *play* \_\_\_ soccer after school. (a) participate in a sport  
 The author wrote a new *play* \_\_\_\_\_. (b) theater piece
  - Ouch! The mosquito *bit* \_\_\_ me! (a) a tiny amount  
 I'll have a little *bit* \_\_\_ of sugar in my tea. (b) past tense of bite
  - My rabbits are in a *pen* \_\_\_ outside. (a) a writing instrument which uses ink  
 Please sign this form with a black *pen* \_\_\_\_\_. (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. (a) moving air (rhymes with *pinned*)  
 I have to *wind* (b) my clock. (b) turn the stem (rhymes with *find*)
- The singer made a low *bow* \_\_\_ to the audience. (a) decorative ribbon (rhymes with *so*)  
 Maria placed a red *bow* \_\_\_ on the birthday gift. (b) bend at the waist (rhymes with *how*)
  - All the students are *present* \_\_\_ today. (a) here (rhymes with *pleasant*)  
 The boss will *present* \_\_\_ the award at 10:00. (b) give (rhymes with *resent*)
  - Please *close* \_\_\_ the door. (a) near (rhymes with *doŕse*)  
 The boy sat *close* \_\_\_ to his uncle. (b) shut (rhymes with *toes*)
  - The rope was *wound* \_\_\_ around his ankles. (a) tied around (rhymes with *pound*)  
 The soldier received a *wound* \_\_\_ in the battle. (b) an injury (rhymes with *moon*)
  - I don't know if I will *live* \_\_\_ or die. (a) to have life (rhymes with *give*)  
 Last night I saw the band play *live* \_\_\_ in concert. (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.