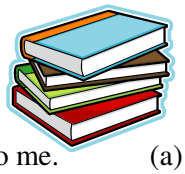
Name_____
Date_____

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

1. 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

2. 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

3. Let's *play* ___ soccer after school. (a) participate in a sport
The author wrote a new *play* ___. (b) theater piece

4. 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

5. 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*)

1. 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*)

2. 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*)

3. 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*)

4. 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.