

Homophones

Homophones can be a bit confusing, but learn these off by heart, and you'll be just fine...

Homophones are words that sound the same

A homophone is a word that sounds the same as another word, but has a different meaning.

They're/their/there

Make sure you don't confuse 'they're', 'their' and 'there'. They mean three very different things.

- 1) 'They're' is short for 'they are'.
- 2) 'Their' means it belongs to them.
- 3) 'There' is for places.

They're really big.

Their tents are red.

It's over there.



To/too/two

Mixing up these three is an easy mistake to make. Learn these rules:

Rosie wants to fly.

I'm going to France.

They went too.

He eats too much.

He saw two cats.

- 1) 'To' can mean 'towards' or it can be part of a verb.
- 2) 'Too' is like saying 'as well' or 'too much'.
- 3) 'Two' is for the number — 2.



Where/were/wear

These three little troublemakers aren't quite so troublesome when you learn the rules for them:

- 1) 'Where' is for places and positions.
- 2) 'Were' is the past tense of 'are'.
- 3) 'Wear' is for clothes and jewellery.

Where is my brother's cat?

You were really moody.

I wear a necklace and boots.



Homophones

You're in for a treat today — another page of homophones. Hurrah.

Don't write 'of' instead of 'off'

'Of' and 'off' are two completely different words:

- 1) 'Of' is a preposition.
- 2) 'Off' is like saying 'away from' or 'not on'.

The bag was full of rubbish.

He took the bag off the table.

This is like saying 'he took the bag away from the table'.



'Passed' and 'past' mean different things

Make sure you know when to use 'passed' and 'past':

I passed the ball.

- 1) 'Passed' is an action word. It's the past tense of the verb 'to pass'.
- 2) 'Past' isn't an action word. It's a preposition.

Go past the park.

'Affect' is the action, 'effect' is the result

It's so easy to get 'affect' and 'effect' mixed up. Remember these tips and you'll get 'em right.

Remember:
Affect =
Action

AFFECT is the **ACTION** which influences something.

EFFECT is the **RESULT** of an action.

The mouldy cheese will affect my dreams.

The mouldy cheese is doing an action.

This talks about the result of eating the mouldy cheese.

The mouldy cheese had a horrible effect.



Quick Questions...

Write these sentences with the correct homophone.

- 1) Get the dog (of/off) the sofa.
- 2) He (past/passed) the restaurant.
- 3) The apple is over (there/their).
- 4) What (affect/effect) did it have?



Homophones

1. Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.

There are **to** / **too** many words that you have to learn to spell.

A female sheep is called a **ewe** / **you** and a baby sheep is called a lamb.

Mark likes to eat **serial** / **cereal** for breakfast.

When it **rains** / **reigns** my mum always says, "It's nice weather for ducks."

I never know **witch** / **which** side of the road I need to be on to catch the right bus.

2. Fill in the gaps in these sentences using the words in the box.

there

they're

their

"Are we nearly yet?" asked Elaine.

Parents often seem to embarrass children.

If Rob and Jill don't hurry up, going to be late.

3. Draw a line to match each word to the sentence it is missing from.

Write the word on the dotted line.

There's a hole in my favourite socks.

Nocturnal animals are awake at

Kim was hungry, so she ate a pizza.

The flowers I bought for my mum had a lovely

David the letter by first-class pigeon post.

The princess was saved by a in shining armour.

whole

hole

sent

scent

knight

night



Homophones

4. Write each pair of homophones in a sentence.

bury / berry

sun / son

tail / tale

5. Draw a circle around the word that has been spelt incorrectly in each sentence.
Write the correct spelling on the line.

I really knead to go to the supermarket and buy some milk. need

The class disgust the pros and cons of wind turbines.

You should always where a helmet when riding an alligator.

We're going to the zoo to sea some lions and tigers.

The whether in Cumbria is dreadful. It's always raining.

6. Write a homophone of each of these words.

worn

lone

herd

sail

site

write

aloud

leek

stare

tied

Homophones can be a bit hideous, but don't let them get the better of you. Sum up your feelings with a tick.

