

Handy Homophones

Homophones are words which are pronounced alike but different in meaning, derivation, or spelling.

A

ad, add
aid, aide
ail, ale
air, ere, heir
aisle, I'll, isle

aloud, allowed
altar, alter
aye, eye, I
ant, aunt
arc, ark

ate, eight
all, awl
aught, ought

B

bail, bale
bait, bate
ball, bawl
bare, bear
baron, barren
base, bass
be, bee
beach, beech
beat, beet
been, bin

berry, bury
berth, birth
better, bettor
billed, build
blend, blende
blew, blue
bloc, block
boll, bowl
boar, bore
born, borne

borough, burro, burrow
bough, bow
boy, buoy
brake, break
bread, bred
bridal, bridle
broach, brooch
but, butt
by, bye

C

calendar, calender
capital, capitol
carat, caret, carrot
cash, cashe
cast, caste
cedar, seeder
cede, seed
ceiling, sealing
cell, sell
cellar, seller
censer, censor
cent, sent, scent
cense, sense

cereal, serial
chased, chaste
cheap, cheep
chilly, chili
choir, quire
chute, shoot
cord, chord
cite, sight, site
clime, climb
close, clothes
coal, cole, kohl
coarse, course
colonel, kernel

complement, compliment
core, corps
council, counsel
craft, kraft
crater, krater
creak, creek
cue, queue
currant, current
cymbal, symbol

D

days, daze
deer, dear
descent, dissent
dessert, desert
do, dew, due

done, dun
die, dye
died, dyed
dire, dyer

discreet, discrete
doe, dough
dual, duel

Handy Homophones

continued

E

earn, urn
eight, ate
either, ether

ere, air, heir
ewe, yew, you
eye, I, aye

eyelet, islet

F

fain, feign
faint, feint
fair, fare
fairy, ferry
faun, fawn
faze, phase
feat, feet

fir, fur
flair, flare
flea, flee
flew, flu, flue,
floe, flow
flour, flower
for, fore, four

forth, fourth
foul, fowl
franc, frank
freeze, frieze

G

gait, gate
gait, gate
genes, jeans
gild, guild

gilt, guilt
gnu, knew, new
gorilla, guerrilla
great, grate

grisly, grizzly
groan, grown
guest, guessed

H

hail, hale
hair, hare
hall, haul
halve, have
hangar, hanger
hart, heart
hay, hey
he'd, heed
heal, heel, he'll

hear, here
heard, herd
heir, are, ere
hew, hue
hi, high
higher, hire
him, hymn
hoard, horde

hoarse, horse
hoses, hose
hole, whole
holy, wholly
hoop, whoop
hostel, hostile
hour, our

I

I, aye, eye
I'll, isle, aisle
idle, idol

in, inn
indict, indite

islet, eyelet
its, it's

J

jam, jamb

jeans, genes

jinks, jinx

K

kernel, colonel
key, quay
knap, nap
knead, kneed, need
knew, gnu, new

knight, night
knightly, nightly
knit, nit
knob, nob
knot, not

know, no
knows, nose
kohl, coal, cole
kraft, craft
krater, crater

Handy Homophones

continued

L

lacks, lax
lain, lane
lay, lei
lead, led
leak, leek

lean, lien
leased, least
lessen, lesson
lie, lye
lo, low

load, lode
loan, lone
loose, luce
loot, lute

M

made, maid
mail, male
main, Maine, mane
maize, maze
mall, maul
manner, manor
marshal, martial

mean, mien
meat, meet
medal, meddle
might, mite
miner, minor
missed, mist
moan, mown

moat, mote
mode, mowed
moose, mousse
morning, mourning
muscle, mussel
mustard, mustered

N

naval, navel
nay, neigh
need, knead, kneed
new, gnu, knew
night, knight

nightly, knightly
nit, knit,
no, know
nob, knob
none, nun

nose, knows
not, knot

O

oar, or, ore
oh, owe

one, won
ought, aught

our, hour
overdo, overdue

P

paced, paste
packed, pact
pail, pale
pall, pawl
pain, pane
pair, pare, pear
palate, palette
passed, past
patience, patients
pause, paws
pea, pee
peace, piece
peak, peek, pique
peal, peel

pedal, peddle
peer, pier
phase, faze
pi, pie
picks, pyx
pistil, pistol
place, plaice
plain, plane
pleas, please
plum, plumb
pole, poll
pore, pour
praise, prays, preys
pray, prey

presence, presents
pride, pried
pries, prize
principal, principle
profit, prophet
pros, prose

Handy Homophones

continued

Q

queue, cue
quiere, choir

quay, key

quarts, quartz

R

rack, wrack
rain, reign, rein
raise, rays, raze
rap, wrap
read, reed
retch, wretch
review, revue

rhyme, rime
right, rite, write
ring, wring
road, rode, rowed
roe, row
role, roll
route, root

rough, ruff
rung, wrung
rye, wry

S

sac, sack
sail, sale
sane, seine
scene, seen
scent sent, cent
sea, see
sealing, ceiling
seam, seem
seas, sees, seize
seed, cede
seeder, cedar
sell, cell
seller, cellar
sense, cense
serf, surf
serial, cereal

sew, so, sow
shear, sheer
shoe, shoo
shone, shown
shoot, chute
sic, sick
side, sighed
sighs, size
sight, site, cite
slay, sleigh
soar, sore
sole, soul
some, sum
son, sun
sonny, sunny

spade, spayed
suit, soot
stare, stair
stake, steak
stationary, stationery
steal, steel, stele
step, steppe
stile, style
straight, strait
sweet, suite
symbol, cymbal

T

tacks, tax
tail, tale
tare, tear
taught, taut
tear, tier
team, teem
tee, tea

tease, teas
tern, turn
their, there, they're
threw, through
throne, thrown
thyme, time
tic, tick

tide, tied
to, too, two
toe, tow
tole, toll
troop, troupe
tuff, tough

U

urn, earn

Handy Homophones

continued

V

vain, vane, vein

vale, veil

verses, versus

W

wail, whale

wails, whales

waist, waste

wait, weight

waited, weighted

waive, wave

war, wore

ware, wear

warn, worn

way, weigh, whey

we, wee

we'd, weed

we've, weave

weak, week

weakly, weekly

weather, wether, whether

weir, we're

wet, whet

which, witch

Whig, wig

whin, win

whine, wine

whirled, world

whit, wit

who's, whose

whoa, woe

whole, hole

wholly, holy

whoop, hoop

won, one

wood, would

wrack, rack

wrap, rap

wretch, retch

wring, ring

write, right, rite

wrung, rung

wry, rye

X

Y

yew, you, ewe

yogh, yoke, yolk

your, you're

Z

Information for parents and educators.

- Homophones contained in this reference material have been researched in a variety of dictionaries.
- This is by no means a complete list of homophones.
- Some obvious homophones were intentionally left off the list. (for instance, the homophones for heroine and dam)
- We chose to call these homophones and reserve the strict meaning of homonym for another reference sheet.