

KS3 English Quiz - Homophones 01 (Questions)

"Right" and "write" have the same pronunciation but mean different things - these are known as homophones. There are more homophones in the English language than you can shake a stick at!

Homophones are two or more words which sound the same but have different meanings; they may or may not be spelled differently. A pair of "homonyms" are spelled and pronounced the same, but have different meanings. All homonyms are also homophones.

Here are some pairs with which you might be familiar: stair/stare; pear/pair; tale/tail; aisle/isle; flour/flower; mousse/moose; jeans/genes; toad/towed. Can you see the potential for humour? Lots of jokes are based on homophones and sometimes poetry draws on the associations a word has with its homophone. Christmas cracker jokes are famous for their homophones, such as this one: What does Santa say while gardening? Hoe, hoe, hoe.....

Try our first quiz on words that are often confused with each other.

1. Which word means "the main one"?

- Princedom
- Principal
- Principality
- Principle

2. Which word means "to remain still"?

- Stationary
- Stationed
- Stationer
- Stationery

3. Which word means "complete"?

- Complaisance
- Complement
- Compliance
- Compliment

4. Which word asks for directions?

- Ware
- Wear
- Were
- Where

5. Which word means "a courageous deed"?

- Fate
- Feat
- Feet
- Fete

6. Which word means "belonging to them"?

- Theirs
- Thereby
- There's
- Thereto

7. Which word means "not to insist upon"?

- Waive
- Wave
- Waver
- Wavy

8. Which word means "chimney"?

- Flew
- Flu
- Flue
- Fluid

9. Which word means "from one end to the other"?

- Though
- Threw
- Through
- Throw

10. Which word means "to avenge"?

- Rake
- Reek
- Wreak
- Wreck

KS3 English Quiz - Homophones 01 (Answers)

1. Which word means "the main one"?

- Princedom
- Principal
- Principality
- Principle

The word "principle" means a rule

2. Which word means "to remain still"?

- Stationary
- Stationed
- Stationer
- Stationery

The word "stationery" means pencils and paper, etc.

3. Which word means "complete"?

- Complaisance
- Complement
- Compliance
- Compliment

The word "compliment" means to give praise

4. Which word asks for directions?

- Ware
- Wear
- Were
- Where

The word "ware" means an item for sale

5. Which word means "a courageous deed"?

- Fate
- Feat
- Feet
- Fete

"Feet", of course, can be found at the ends of legs....

6. Which word means "belonging to them"?

- Theirs
- Thereby
- There's
- Thereto

"There's" is a contraction for "there is"

7. Which word means "not to insist upon"?

- Waive
- Wave
- Waver
- Wavy

Be careful not to muddle up "wave" and "waive"

8. Which word means "chimney"?

- Flew
- Flu
- Flue
- Fluid

There are three homophones here: "flu", "flue" and "flew"

9. Which word means "from one end to the other"?

- Though
- Threw
- Through
- Throw

"Threw" is the past tense of "throw"

10. Which word means "to avenge"?

- Rake
- Reek
- Wreak
- Wreck

"Reek" means a terrible smell