

KS3 English Quiz - Homophones 02 (Questions)

Words that sound similar are called homophones. "Bare" and "Bear" sound exactly the same when spoken; however, they mean very different things. Sometimes homophones can cause a great deal of confusion in spoken English, causing you to believe you've misheard someone!

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, there are at least a quarter of a million different English words, so it is absolutely no surprise to find that some of these words sound exactly the same, even though they have different meanings, different histories and different spellings. Words like this are known as "homophones".

You can use homophones for word play, for jokes and even for more serious purposes in your creative writing. Ready for another Christmas cracker joke? What should a Valentine card given to a sheep say? I love ewe.....

Expand your English knowledge with this quiz.

1. Which word means "sorrowing"?

- Meaning
- Moaning
- Morning
- Mourning

2. Which one is a cereal?

- Amaze
- Mace
- Maize
- Maze

3. Which one is an expression of distance?

- Farther
- Farthing
- Father
- Feather

4. Which one has items for sale?

- Basalt
- Bascule
- Bazaar
- Bizarre

5. Which one gives directions?

- Marl
- Marline
- Marshal
- Martial

6. Which one is a bird?

- Marmoset
- Marsupial
- Marten
- Martin

7. Which one helps you climb over a fence?

- Stile
- Stilt
- Style
- Stylus

8. Which one is a measuring machine?

- Meter
- Metre
- Mite
- Mitre

9. Which one follows "third"?

- Forth
- Four
- Fourth
- Fourths

10. Which one means "to carry out"?

- Practical
- Practically
- Practice
- Practise

KS3 English Quiz - Homophones 02 (Answers)

1. Which word means "sorrowing"?

- Meaning
- Moaning
- Morning
- Mourning

You wouldn't confuse "mourning" with "morning", would you?

2. Which one is a cereal?

- Amaze
- Mace
- Maize
- Maze

Sometimes a field of maize can be turned into a maze, though

3. Which one is an expression of distance?

- Farther
- Farthing
- Father
- Feather

Father threw the feather farther than anyone else and won a farthing

4. Which one has items for sale?

- Basalt
- Bascule
- Bazaar
- Bizarre

"Basalt" is a rock whilst "bascule" is a type of bridge

5. Which one gives directions?

- Marl
- Marline
- Marshal
- Martial

"Martial" means military or warlike

6. Which one is a bird?

- Marmoset
- Marsupial
- Marten
- Martin

A "marten" is a type of weasel

7. Which one helps you climb over a fence?

- Stile
- Stilt
- Style
- Stylus

But could you climb a stile in style?

8. Which one is a measuring machine?

- Meter
- Metre
- Mite
- Mitre

A "metre" is a measurement whilst a "mitre" is a bishop's hat

9. Which one follows "third"?

- Forth
- Four
- Fourth
- Fourths

"Forth", of course, refers to movement forwards

10. Which one means "to carry out"?

- Practical
- Practically
- Practice
- Practise

Remember: "practise" is a verb and "practice" is a noun. Practise spelling because practice will help you improve!