

Language Exercises

onomographs

combining
sentences

compound
predicates

participles

independent
clauses

possessive
nouns

relative
pronouns

topic and
audience

antecedents

reference
sources

double
negatives



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■ A **synonym** is a word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as one or more other words. EXAMPLES: reply – answer talk – speak

A. Write a synonym for each word below.

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. pleasant _____ | 5. fearless _____ | 9. house _____ |
| 2. enough _____ | 6. artificial _____ | 10. nation _____ |
| 3. leave _____ | 7. famous _____ | 11. difficult _____ |
| 4. inquire _____ | 8. trade _____ | 12. vacant _____ |

B. Write four sentences about recycling. In each sentence, use a synonym for the word in parentheses. Underline the synonym.

- (packaging) _____
- (waste) _____
- (landfill) _____
- (planet) _____

■ An **antonym** is a word that has the opposite meaning of another word. EXAMPLES: old – new bad – good

C. Write an antonym for each word below.

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. failure _____ | 5. all _____ | 9. friend _____ |
| 2. absent _____ | 6. forget _____ | 10. always _____ |
| 3. before _____ | 7. love _____ | 11. light _____ |
| 4. slow _____ | 8. no _____ | 12. forward _____ |

D. In each sentence, write an antonym for the word in parentheses that makes sense in the sentence.

- Thao ran his hand along the (smooth) _____ surface of the wood.
- He knew he would have to (stop) _____ sanding it.
- Only after sanding would he be able to (destroy) _____ a table.
- He would try to (forget) _____ not to sand it too much.

■ A **homonym** is a word that sounds the same as another word but has a different spelling and a different meaning.

EXAMPLES: their – they're – there hear – here

A. Underline the correct homonym(s) in each sentence below.

1. What is the (weight, wait) of that rocket?
2. The (sale, sail) on the lake will be rough today.
3. Don't you like to (brows, browse) around in a bookstore?
4. We spent several (days, daze) at an old-fashioned (in, inn).
5. The ship was caught in an ice (flow, floe).
6. A large (boulder, bolder) rolled down the mountainside.
7. Why is that crowd on the (pier, peer)?
8. They asked the bank for a (lone, loan).
9. We drove four miles in a foggy (missed, mist).
10. Don't you like to (sea, see) a field of golden wheat?
11. Jack (threw, through) the ball (threw, through) the garage window.
12. We (buy, by) our fish from the market down on the (beach, beech).
13. The band will march down the middle (aisle, isle) of the auditorium.
14. Who is the (principal, principle) of your school?
15. The United States Congress (meats, meets) in the capitol in Washington, D.C.
16. The farmer caught the horse by the (rain, reign, rein).
17. She stepped on the (break, brake) suddenly.
18. (Their, There) are too many people to get on this boat.
19. The wren (flew, flue) in a (strait, straight) line.
20. We were not (allowed, aloud) to visit the museum yesterday.

B. Write a homonym for each word below.

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. weigh _____ | 7. ate _____ | 13. see _____ |
| 2. steal _____ | 8. vain _____ | 14. sent _____ |
| 3. sail _____ | 9. strait _____ | 15. pare _____ |
| 4. fare _____ | 10. threw _____ | 16. peace _____ |
| 5. maid _____ | 11. soar _____ | 17. sun _____ |
| 6. deer _____ | 12. bored _____ | 18. blue _____ |

- A **homograph** is a word that has the same spelling as another word but a different meaning and sometimes a different pronunciation.

EXAMPLE: saw, meaning "have seen," and saw, meaning "a tool used for cutting"

A. Circle the letter for the definition that best defines each underlined homograph.

- Sara jumped at the bangs of the exploding balloons.
 - fringe of hair
 - loud noises
- She grabbed a stick to arm herself against the threat.
 - part of the body
 - take up a weapon
- The dog's bark woke the family.
 - noise a dog makes
 - outside covering on a tree
- Mix the pancake batter for three minutes.
 - person at bat
 - mixture for cooking

B. Use the homographs in the box to complete the sentences below. Each homograph will be used twice.

- Pieces of a board game are _____.
People who are cashiers are _____.

- A water bird is a _____.
To lower the head is to _____.

- A metal container is a _____.
If you are able, you _____.

- To get down from something is to _____.
If something is on fire, it is _____.

duck
alight
can
checkers

C. Write the homograph for each pair of meanings below. The first letter of each word is given for you.

- place for horses
 - delay
 s _____
- a metal fastener
 - a sound made with fingers
 s _____
- to crush
 - a yellow vegetable
 s _____
- a bad doctor
 - the sound made by a duck
 q _____
- to strike
 - a party fruit drink
 p _____