



SAME WORD, DIFFERENT MEANING

VOCABULARY LESSON

[YOUTUBE.COM/ENGLISHWITHLUCY](https://www.youtube.com/englishwithlucy)

In this lesson, you're learning about homonyms and homographs. Homonyms are words that are spelt and pronounced the same but have different meanings, like **bark** and **fly**. Homographs are words that are spelt the same but have different pronunciations and different meanings, like **desert** /dez.ət/ and **desert** /dɪ'zɜ:t/.

HOMONYMS

1. BARK

The first word is bark (/bɑ:k/).

Bark means the hard covering of a tree; it's often brown.

An oak tree has brown bark.

Bark also means the sound that a dog makes or it can be used as a verb to talk about a dog making a short loud sound.

The dog barks every morning at about 6 am!

We can also use bark to say that a person is talking aggressively and loudly!

2. FINE

The next word we're looking at is **fine** (/faɪn/).

The most common meaning of this word is good or ok.

How are you? I'm fine, thanks.



Another common meaning of fine is an amount of money you have to pay when you break the law.

I got a £50 fine for speeding.

3. BAT

The next homonym is **bat** (/bæt/).

A bat is both an animal and something that we use in sports.

As an animal, a bat is a small animal that flies at night.

It looks a bit like a mouse.

I'm scared of bats! Apparently, they suck blood!

In sport, a bat is a wooden object that we use to hit balls in certain games like cricket and baseball.

We can't start playing until we find the bat!

4. KIND

Next up, we have **kind** (/kaɪnd/).

As an adjective, kind means nice and helpful.

She is a kind person.

As a noun, kind means a type of person or thing.

What kind of fuel should I use in this car?



5. SPRING

Word number five is **spring** (/sprɪŋ/).

One meaning of spring is the season between winter and summer.

In the UK, spring is from March to May.

Another meaning is a place where water flows up from the ground.

I love drinking natural spring water.

A spring can also be a metal coil.

Don't jump on the bed! You'll damage the springs!

6. MATCH

Next on the list is **match** (/mætʃ/).

A match is a game played in some sports, like football and cricket.

Are you going to watch the match on TV later?

A match is also a stick that's often made of wood with a chemical at one end that we use to burn things.

I need some matches to light these candles.

7. FLY

Next up we have **fly** (/flaɪ/).

When a plane, a bird or an insect moves through the sky, we say it flies.

Fly also means to travel by plane.

I am flying to Abu Dhabi next week.

And, fly means an insect with wings.

There are lots of flies on that meat.



8. MEAN

Mean (/mi:n/) is very common in English. You will know it as when something has a meaning or expresses something.

What does this word mean in English?

But mean also has a negative meaning as an adjective. If someone is mean, they are unkind.

He told me I didn't look nice today; it was very mean!

9. STALK

Word number nine is **stalk** (/stɔ:k/).

One meaning is the stem of a flower or plant that has the flower or leaves at the end.

I need to cut the stalks of these roses before I put them in a vase.

Another meaning of stalk is to follow someone illegally without being seen.

The man was stalking her for a month before the police caught him.

10. TRAIN

The last homonym is **train** (/treɪn/).

A train is a railway vehicle with carriages.

I love travelling by train.

Train also means to prepare for something, like a job or a sport, by learning and working hard.

I'm training for a marathon at the moment.



HOMOGRAPHS

1. DESERT

First, **desert** /dez.ət/ and **desert** /dɪ'zɜ:t/.

One meaning of desert is a large, sandy area where there's not much rain and not much grows.

With this meaning, it is pronounced /dez.ət/.

I would love to visit the Sahara desert one day.

Desert can also be used as a verb.

It means to leave someone, often in a difficult situation.

The pronunciation is /dɪ'zɜ:t/.

She deserted her husband.

2. TEAR

Our next words are **tear** (/teər/) and **tear** (/tɪər/).

Tear (/teər/) means to pull something so it separates into pieces.

Don't tear that piece of paper! It's important.

Tear (/tɪər/) means a drop of liquid that comes from your eye when you cry.

He had tears in his eyes when he talked about his cat.

3. BOW

Number three is **bow** (/baʊ/) and **bow** (/bəʊ/).



One meaning is to bend forwards from the waist to show someone respect.

The pronunciation for this is (/baʊ/).

It is common to bow to people in Japan.

Another meaning of bow (/bəʊ/) is a weapon made from a curved piece of wood that is used to shoot arrows.

People used to fight with bows and arrows.

A bow is also a ribbon you can wear in your hair or at your neck.

4. ROW

Similar in pronunciation to bow and bow, we have row (/raʊ/) and row (/rəʊ/).

Row (/raʊ/) means an argument, often with shouting.

I had a row with my husband about the washing up.

Row (/rəʊ/) means a line of things next to each other.

I sat in the front row so I could see the screen better.

5. OVERLOOK

The next words are overlook (/ˌəʊ.və'luːk/) and overlook (/əʊ.və.luːk/).

The first meaning is to fail to notice something important.

It is pronounced overlook (/ˌəʊ.və'luːk/).

You overlooked a very important factor - the price!

Another meaning is a place that gives a good view of something from above.



It's pronounced overlook (/ˈəʊ.və.lʊk/).

We stopped at an overlook for a great view of the Grand Canyon.

6. WIND

At number six, we have **wind** (/wɪnd/) and **wind** (/waɪnd/).

The first is a type of weather when the air blows quickly enough for you to feel it.

It's pronounced wind (/wɪnd/).

The wind was really strong today.

The second word, wind (/waɪnd/) means to turn something.

I have an old-fashioned watch that I need to wind every morning.

7. WOUND

Continuing from wind (/waɪnd/), we have the words **wound** (/waʊnd/) and **wound** (/wuːnd/).

Wound (/waʊnd/) is the past tense of the verb wind.

I wound the wool up into a ball.

Wound (/wuːnd/) means an injury or to injure, often during a war or from a violent incident.

He was wounded in the leg.

8. RECORD

The next homographs are **record** (/rɪˈkɔːd/) and **record** (/ˈrek.ɔːd/).



As a verb, record, pronounced (/rɪ'kɔ:d/), means to make an electronic copy of sounds or images.

My favourite band just recorded a new song.

As a noun, the word is pronounced record (/ˈrek.ɔ:d/) and it means information that is kept about something that happened or a piece of music that has been recorded.

We made a record of all the day's events.

9. ENTRANCE

Number nine is **entrance** (/ˈen.trəns/) and **entrance** (/ɪnˈtrɑ:ns/).

The first meaning as a noun is a place where you can enter a building, like a door or a gate.

it is pronounced entrance (/ˈen.trəns/).

The entrance is around the side.

The second meaning, as a verb, means to be so beautiful or interesting that you give it all of your attention. It is pronounced entrance (/ɪnˈtrɑ:ns/).

Her singing completely entranced me.

10. PRESENT

The final words we're looking at in today's video are **present** (/ˈprez.ənt/) and **present** (/prɪˈzent/).



The noun present (/ˈprez.ənt/), means a gift you give someone for a special occasion.

Thank you for my birthday present.

The verb, present (/priˈzent/), means to give something in a formal way.

They presented him with a certificate.



Activity

Complete the sentences with one of the words from today's lesson!

1. The _____ is so strong today, I could hardly stand up!
2. You should _____ from the waist when you meet the Queen.
3. We didn't bring any _____ so we're having trouble lighting the campfire.
4. My neighbour's dog _____ every time we walk past their house; it's very annoying!
5. I would hate to get lost in the _____; with no water and no trees around, it could end very badly.
6. _____ is my favourite season because I love seeing everything coming back to life after winter.
7. I think there might be _____ in that cave - I don't want to go in there!
8. Ben is _____ for a weightlifting competition so he spends a lot of time at the gym.
9. Don't be _____ to your sister! Let her play with you.
10. My grandma is _____ to the US tomorrow and it's going to be her first time on a plane!

Answers

1. wind, 2. bow, 3. matches, 4. barks, 5. desert, 6. Spring, 7. bats, 8. training, 9. mean, 10. flying