Homographs

Homographs (heteronym) are words that are spelled the same but not pronounced the same and have different meanings

* **Affect** *ehFEKT*- to change; *AFFekt*- a person's feelings or emotion
* **Alternate** *ALternit*- the next choice; *ALternait*- switch back and forth
* **Are** *AHR*- plural present tense of "to be"; *AIR*- 100 square meters (1/100th of a hectare) [although may also be pronounced *AHR*]
* **Ares** *AIRS*- 100 square meter units [plural]; *AIReez*- Greek god of war [capitalized]
* **Attribute** *ahTRIByoot*- to consider resulting from; *AHtribyoot*- a characteristic of someone (12)
* **August** *AUgust*- month [capitalized]; *auGUST*- important, eminent
* **Axes** *AKsiz-* more than one ax or axe; *AKseez*- the plural of axis
* **Bass** *BASE-* a string instrument; *(rhymes with mass)-* a fish
* **Bow** *BAU*- to lower one's head or the front of a ship; *BOH*- used to shoot arrows
* **Bowed** *BAU-d*- to bend over; *BOH-d*- bent
* **Buffet** *BUFFet*- to pound or bump; *booFAY*- place where you serve yourself
* **Close** *CLOZE***-** to shut; *CLOS***-** near
* **Combine** *komBYNE*- put together; *KOMbyne*- a threshing machine
* **Conduct** *KONduckt*- behavior; *kunDUCKT*- to lead (see this heteronym below)
* **Conflict** *kunFLIKT***-** to act against; *KAHNflict***-** a fight or disagreement
* **Console** *KAHNsole*- an upright case; *kunSOLE*- to comfort
* **Content** *KAHNtent*- meaning; *kunTENT*- satisfied
* **Contest** *kunTEST*- to argue; *KAHNtest*- a match of skill
* **Contract** *CONtract*- an agreement; *conTRACT*- to shrink or to agree on a project
* **Convert** *conVERT*- to change one's belief; *CONvert*- one whose belief was changed
* **Converse** *KAHNvers*- the opposite; *kunVERS*- to talk
* **Convict** *kunVIKT*- to find guilty; *KAHNvikt*- a prisoner
* **Crooked** *KROOKt*- to bend your neck; *KROOK*-ed- having a curve
* **Deliberate** *diLIBerit*- carefully considered; *diLIBerATE*- to consider
* **Desert** *dihZURT*- to leave ; *DEZert*- arid region
* **Digest** *DYEjest*- collection of published material; *dieJEST*- absorb nutrients
* **Do** *DOO*- to accomplish; *DOE*- a musical note
* **Does** *DUZ*- performs; *DOZE*- more than one female deer
* **Dove** *DUV*- a bird; *DOEV*- jumped off
* **Drawer** *DROR*- the compartment you pull out from the dresser; *DRAWer*- one who draws
* **Excuse** *EKskyooz*- to let someone off; *EKskyoos*- a reason or explanation
* **House** *HAUS*- a building that serves as living quarters; *HOWZ*- to provide with living quarters
* **Incense** *INsens*- burnt aromatic; *inSENS*- to make angry
* **Intern** *INtern*- a physician in training; *inTERN*- confine to prescribed area
* **Invalid** *inVALLid*- not valid; *INvallid*- an ill person
* **Laminate** *LAMinate*- to construct by adding layers; *LAMinit* [although both pronunciations are listed]- the cover itself
* **Lather** *(rhymes with rather)*- foam or suds; *(rhymes with bath fur)*- a worker who installs lath (lattice work)
* **Lead** *LEED*- to guide; *LED*- a metallic element
* **Minute** *MINNit*- 60 seconds; *myNOOT*- tiny
* **Moderate** *MODerit*- keeping within reason; *MODerATE*- to preside over
* **Mow** *MOH*- to cut grass; *MAU*- a pile of hay
* **Multiply** *MULLtihPLIE*- multiply two numbers; *MULLtihplee*- in a multiple manner
* **Number** *NUMber*- one, two, three …; *NUMMER*- more numb [many dictionaries do not list this use, which suggests that "more numb" is preferred; however, the listed use is given in The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Third Edition, Electronic version.]
* **Nun** *NUN*- women in religious order; *NOON*- 14th letter in Hebrew alphabet
* **Object** *ubJEKT*- to complain; *AHBjekt*- a thing
* **Pasty** *PAstee*- like glue; *PASStee*- a meat pie
* **Pate** *PAIT*- a bald head; *paTAY*- a minced food; *PAHT*- a porcelain paste [diacritics in pâté and pâte don't count!]
* **Perfect** *PERfekt*- exactly correct; *perFEKT*- to make correct
* **Periodic** *PEEReeODDik*- occasional; *PUREeyeODDik*- an iodine compound
* **Permit** *perMIT*- to allow some event to occur; *PERmit* [although both pronunciations are listed]- a document giving permission
* **Polish** *POElish*- from Poland; *PAHLish*- shine [capitalization doesn't count!]
* **Present** *PREZent*- a gift; *preeSENT*- to give a talk
* **Primer** *PRIHMer*- an elementary book; *PRYmer*- the preparatory coat of paint
* **Produce** *PROdoos*- vegetables; *proDOOS*- bring forth
* **Project** *proJEKT-* to show a movie; *PRAHjekt-* a task
* **Pussy** *PUHSee*- having pus; *POOHSee*; a kitten
* **Raven** *RAYven*- black bird; *RAVen*- hungry
* **Rebel** *REBBell*- a resister; *rihBELL*- to resist
* **Record** *RECKord*- a list; *reKORD*- to write down
* **Recreation** *rek-ree-Ashun*- pastime; *REEcreeAshun*- remake (also, **recreate**)
* **Refuse** *reFUSE*- to deny; *REFFyoos*- garbage
* **Relay** *reeLAY*- to put it down again, such as a carpet; *REElay*- a race by teams; *rihLAY*- to pass along, such as information [One of our dictionaries gives these pronunciations, but does not distinguish meanings among the latter two. The pronunciation may vary among individuals.]
* **Rerun** *reRUN*- to race again or to repeat a show on television; RErun- a repeated TV show
* **Reside:** reZIDE- to stay put; RE-SYD- [Slang] to change places (change teams) [usu. hyphenated as re-side] (
* **Resign** *reZYN*- to quit; *reSYN*- to sign again (e.g., a contract) [usu. hyphenated as re-sign]
* **Resume** *reeZOOM*- to restart; *REHZoomay*- a document of experience [also résumé; diacritics don't count!]
* **Row** *ROH*- a line; *ROUW*- a fight
* **Sake** *SAHkey*- alcoholic drink; *SAYK*- a purpose
* **Secrete** *seeKREET*- to discharge; *sehKRET*- an armored skullcap [secrète, diacritics don't count!]
* **Secreted** *seeKREETed*- having put out; *SEEkrehted*- placed out of sight
* **Separate** *SEPerATE*- to divide into groups; *SEPret*- not joined together
* **Sewer** *SOwer*- one who sews; *SOOwer*- place for human waste
* **Slough** *SLUFF*- the outer layer of skin of a snake; [*rhymes with OW!*]- a hole of deep mud or mire; *SLOO*- a marshy pond
* **Sow** *SOUW-* a pig; *SO-* to plant seed
* **Subject** *SUBjekt*- the theme; subJEKT- to force upon someone
* **Tear** *TARE*- to rip; *TEER*- fluid in eye
* **Wind** *WHINEd*- to coil up; *WINd*- the blowing air
* **Wound** *WOOND*- to injure; *WOWND*- coiled up