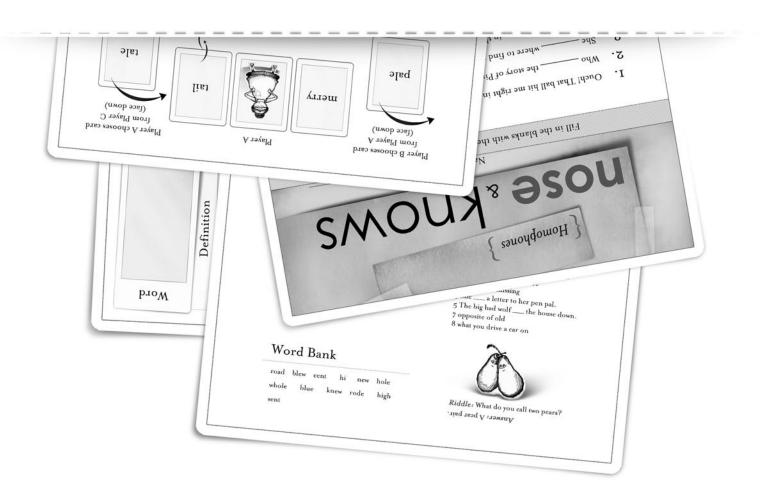


Marie Rippel

Table of Contents

Introduction to Homophones			
Graphic Organizers			
Using Graphic Organizers	15		
Selection of Graphic Organizers			
Homophone Worksheets			
Suggestions for Using the Worksheets	25		
List of Homophone Worksheets	26		
Worksheets	27		
Crossword Puzzles	141		
Homophone Card Games			
Using Games to Teach Homophones	163		
Pig	165		
Go Fish	166		
Old Maid	167		
Homophone Pile-Up	168		
Homophone Memory Game	169		
Snap!	170		
Game Cards	17]		
More Teaching Tools			
Teaching Homophones with Books	199		
Student Record Sheets	201		
Tongue Twisters	204		
Riddles	212		
Puns	213		
Appendices			
Appendix A: Worksheet Answer Keys	217		
Appendix B: Crossword Answer Keys	225		
Appendix C: Homophones Used in Activities	229		
Appendix D: Mega-List of Homophones	231		
Bibliography	230		

INTRODUCTION



Introduction to Homophones

I can still remember the day I first found out about homophones. My second grade teacher had a small collection of books on a low shelf in the back of the classroom. After we were done with our work we could choose a book and bring it back to our desks. One day I discovered a book that had pairs of homophones. It was the first time I realized that such things existed and my pulse quickened. The thrill of such knowledge! I read that book over and over, and to this day I still like these pairs of words!

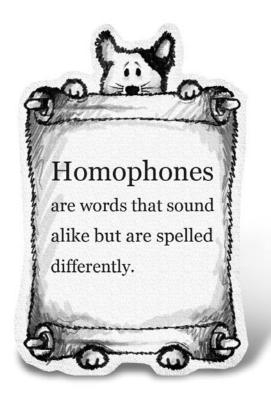
The fact is, many students find homophones interesting. You can capitalize on this interest and use homophones to teach reading, writing, and vocabulary. Lessons that include homophones provide the perfect opportunity to play with words and have some fun with language.

What are homophones?

Homo means same and phone means sound, so the word homophone literally means same sound. Homophones are two or more words that sound alike but that are spelled differently and have different meanings. Sets of homophones include billed and build, peace and piece, and sew, so, and sow.

Homophones occur in English because we have multiple ways to spell the same sound. For example:

- * The sound of /n/ can be spelled with the letter <u>n</u> or the letter combination <u>kn</u>, resulting in the homophones *night* and *knight*.
- * The sound of /ā/ can be spelled <u>a</u>-consonant-<u>e</u> or <u>ay</u> (among other possible spellings), giving us <u>daze</u> and <u>days</u>.
- * The schwa sound (the muffled /uh/ sound of vowels in unaccented syllables) causes words like complement and compliment to be pronounced alike.



A note about regional accents

Regional accents can affect whether words are homophones or not. A few words are homophones in some areas but not in others. For example, weather and whether are pronounced the same in certain parts of America, but in other regions the wh in whether has retained a distinct /hw/ sound. The words acts and ax sound alike to most of us, but some people pronounce the t in acts.

Speakers in the U.S. pronounce *due* and *do* identically, but in most British accents they are pronounced differently. The words *boy* and *buoy* have the same pronunciation in England (and therefore are homophones) but not in America.

As you use the activities in this book, you should be the final judge as to whether certain word pairs are homophones in your neck of the woods.

What you'll find in this tool kit



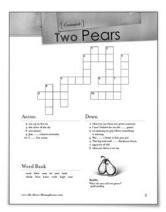
Graphic Organizers

These organizers provide room for creativity and individual expression as students learn the meanings of new homophones.



Homophone Worksheets

Much more interesting than your average worksheets! These pages provide ideas for creative reinforcement, including activities that will get your students thinking, reading, writing, and speaking. They provide learners an opportunity to practice new skills in order to truly master them.



Crossword Puzzles

Provide your students with extra reinforcement with these homophone puzzles. Clever graphics and riddles add an element of humor.



Card Games

The intellectual stimulation provided by games keeps kids learning and making new connections between words. Instructions and game cards for six quick, motivating games are included.



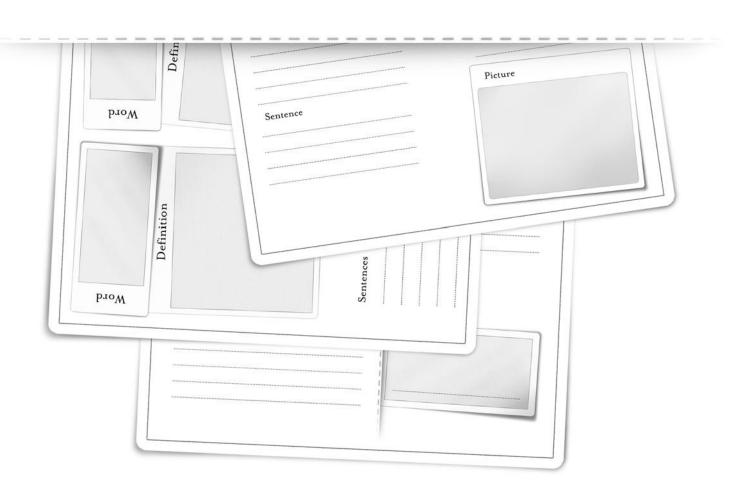
And More!

Capture the attention of your students with these additional resources:

- * Teaching Homophones with Books
- * Student Record Sheets for Recording Personal Lists of Homophones
- * Tongue Twisters
- * Riddles and Puns
- * Mega-List of Homophones

Dip into this book often and use the wide variety of activities to enhance your lessons!

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS



Using Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers are a great way to teach homophones to children. There are many benefits to using these graphic organizers.

- * Graphic organizers help communicate information through charts and diagrams.
- * They help sharpen analysis and communication skills.
- * Students learn the meaning of the homophone when they fill in the definition.
- * Students have the opportunity to practice using the homophones in original sentences.
- * There is room for creativity and individual expression, which can help students remember the homophones more easily.
- * Organizing information makes it easier for students to grasp the differences between homophones.
- * The organizers promote a sense of student ownership of knowledge because they replace teachergenerated sheets with student-generated writing.
- * Graphic organizers offer students a hands-on approach to learning new words.

Here are some ideas for using graphic organizers in the classroom:

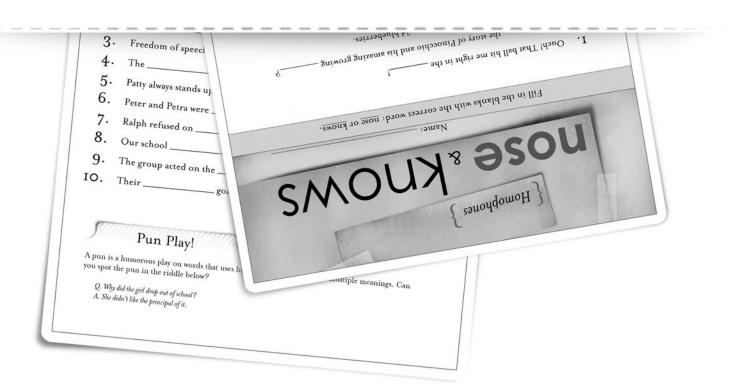
- * Have students fill in their own graphic organizers so that each student's sheet is unique.
- * Students can decorate their work with crayons or colored pencils.
- * Completed graphic organizers can be used as a study aid for spelling, reading, and vocabulary.
- ***** Use the organizers as an assessment tool.
- * Store the organizers in a classroom binder (like a class book) or keep them in individual student portfolios. Students can punch holes in them and place in a three-ring binder.
- * Encourage students to come up with their own sentences using the homophones.
- * When teaching a new set of homophones to your students, draw a graphic organizer on the chalkboard or dry erase board. Fill in the different sections as you discuss them with your students.

Following are six graphic organizers that you can copy and use with your students.

Definition	Word
Sentences	
Definition	Word

Word	
Definition	Synonyms
Sentence	Picture
Word	Synonyms
Sentence	Picture

HOMOPHONE WORKSHEETS



Suggestions for Using the Worksheets

Worksheets give students targeted practice with the proper use of homophones. Each fill-in-the-blank worksheet in this section features a single set of homophones. Answer keys for the worksheets are located in Appendix A.

For ease in locating the homophone pairs you want to teach, worksheets are arranged in alphabetical order within each suggested grade level section. All homophones are also cross-referenced with page numbers in Appendix C.

At the bottom of each worksheet you will find fun facts, tongue twisters, writing activities, and other nifty features that will help reinforce the homophones learned. In addition, the worksheets offer a jumping-off point for many other creative activities that will get your students thinking, reading, writing, and speaking. Here are a few more ideas you can try:

Vocabulary

- * Teach the meanings of the homophones before handing out the worksheet.
- * Use the graphic organizers to teach definitions and to list synonyms.
- * Have students circle other unfamiliar words in the sentences and look up definitions.

Creative Writing

- * Use the worksheets to teach literary devices such as rhyme, simile, alliteration, assonance, and meter
- * Students can use the homophone pairs to create their own tongue twisters, riddles, songs, and poems.
- * Have students choose a sentence from the worksheet and use it as a writing prompt for a brief story, poem, or descriptive paragraph. Encourage them to use the targeted homophones and their imaginations.

Reading and Research

* Use the Fun Facts! and Try This! features to encourage further reading and research on a topic suggested in the sentences.

Speaking

- * Write the homophone pairs on the board and use the sentences to hold a classroom Homophone Bee.
- * Project the worksheets on the wall and call on students individually to provide the correct word.
- * Have students recite their original tongue twisters, poems, sentences, and so on.

Art/Drama

- * Have students draw pictures of the homophone pairs and label the pictures with the correct words
- * Create a homophones bulletin board with student-generated art and writing.
- * Have students act out a homophone for the rest of the class to guess and spell.
- * Students can write and perform silly skits using designated homophone pairs.

Reinforcement

- * Use the crossword puzzles and games included in this book to review homophones learned.
- * Have students write their own fill-in-the-blank sentences and use them to "quiz" their classmates.



Fill in the blanks with the correct word: <u>road</u> or <u>rode</u>.

1.	This has twists and turns, so fasten your seatbelt.				
2.	Ted the roller coaster until he was dizzy.				
3.	The cowboys their horses to the end of the dirt				
4.	Sue was lost and didn't know which to take.				
5.	Alex his bike in the parade.				
6.	The Roman soldiers on the old stone until the brea				
	of dawn.				
7.	I an elephant at the circus last week!				
8.	The tribe their camels across the desert.				
9.	The scarecrow danced down the Yellow Brick				
10.	There's a moose in the middle of the!				

Fun Facts!

How old is the street you live on? One of the oldest paved roads in the world is in Egypt. Built 4,600 years ago, it is about seven miles long and is located near the Great Pyramids of Giza. In Italy, the Aurelia road was built between ancient Rome and Pisa over 2,000 years ago—and is still used today!



Name:

Fill in the blanks with the correct word: sale or sail.

1.	If there is a on worms, would you buy me fourteen of them?
2.	We are ready to as soon as the storm stops.
3.	My mom made cupcakes for the bake
4.	We bought this on, but it's full of holes.
5.	Why does she always into class five minutes late?
6.	Every video game in the store was on today.
7.	We heard the crack of the bat and watched the ball through the air.
8.	Let's around the island and go to the seashell on the
	other side.
9.	The pirates planned to away in the dead of night.
10.	They heard there was a on eye patches and didn't want to miss it.
	Silly Sentences! see up your own silly sentences using the homophones sale and sail. Try to start most of the words in the letter s.



Name:

Fill in the blanks with the correct word: pale or pail.

- 1. Wild rabbits hopped in the _____ light of dawn.
- 2. He dragged that heavy ______ of rocks for three miles.
- 3. Why did Peter put his peppers in a _____?
- 4. Sue turned _____ when she saw that her ____ was empty.
- 5. They crept along the wooded path, lit only by a _____ moon.
- 6. She looked like a rosebud in her _____ pink dress.
- 7. Alan poured a whole _____ of berries on his pancakes.
- 8. Bobby asked me to fill this _____ with ____ green bugs.
- 9. Jill woke from her nightmare, _____ with fear.
- 10. "I dreamed I dropped my ______ of water," she wailed.

Pun Play!

A pun is a humorous play on words that uses homophones or words with multiple meanings. Can you figure out the pun in the riddle below?

Q. Why was the pail pale?

A. It wasn't a well bucket.





Fill in the blanks with the correct word: capital or capitol.

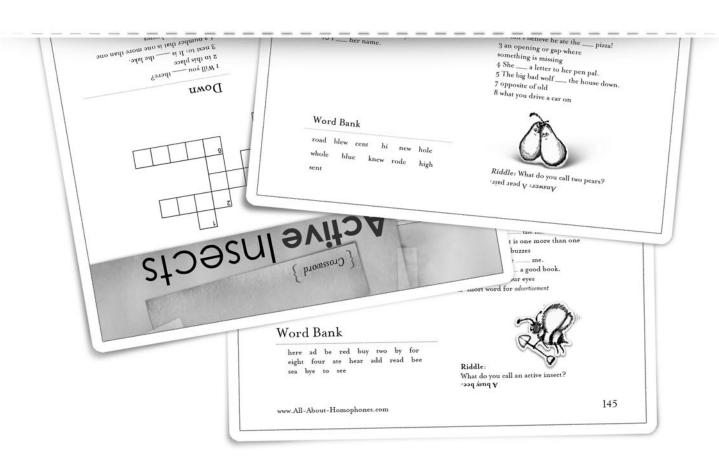
1.	Katy kept quiet about her secret location in the city.
2.	With a whoosh of his cape, Superman flew to the top of the
3.	Use a letter when you write about the building.
4.	"What a idea!" bellowed the jolly old soul.
5.	Eagle River, Wisconsin claims to be the "snowmobile of the world."
6.	She whispered the code word and the doors to the swung open.
7.	Was it a offense to eat corn on the cob on the steps of the state?
8.	She baked a cake in the shape of the building for the lawyer's birthday.
9.	Why did the senator crawl into the on his hands and knees?
10.	The cackling cats in their camel coats committed a error.

Fun Facts!

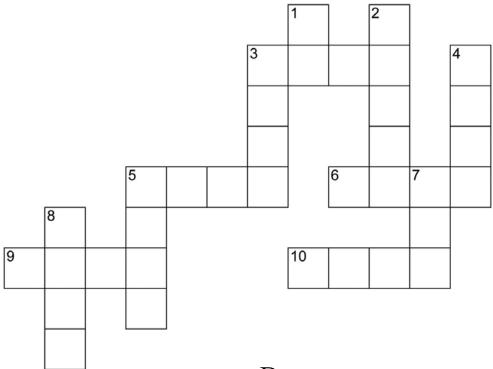
Hollywood may be the movie capital of the world, but lots of other American cities claim to be the "capital of the world" for something, too. Take a look at these:

- Bandera, Texas Cowboy Capital of the World
- · Kennett Square, Pennsylvania Mushroom Capital of the World
- Sheboygan, Wisconsin Bratwurst Capital of the World
- Parke County, Indiana Covered Bridge Capital of the World
- Coconut Creek, Florida Butterfly Capital of the World
- Beaver, Oklahoma Cow Chip Throwing Capital of the World

CROSSWORD PUZZLES



Two Pears



\mathbf{Across}

- 3 way up in the air
- 5 the color of the sky
- 6 one penny
- 9 Jim ____ a horse yesterday.
- 10 I ____ her name.

Down

- 1 what you say when you greet someone
- 2 I can't believe he ate the ____ pizza!
- 3 an opening or gap where something is missing
- 4 She ____ a letter to her pen pal.
- 5 The big bad wolf ____ the house down.
- 7 opposite of old
- 8 what you drive a car on

Word Bank

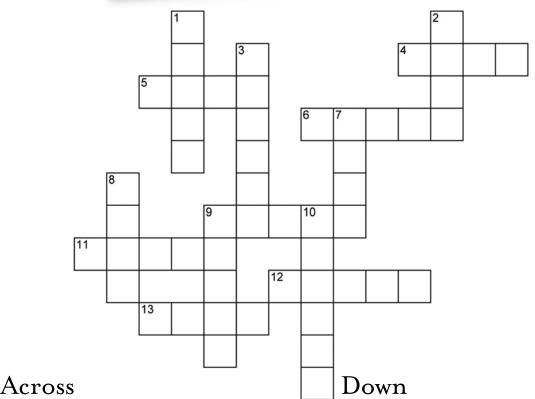
road blew cent hi new hole whole blue knew rode high sent



Riddle:

What do you call two pears? A pear pair.

Sir Lancelot



-
- 5 letters and packages that you send or receive

4 painful or tender to the touch

- 6 simple; not fancy
- 9 a device that allows you to slow down or stop a car or bicycle
- Il a white powder made of wheat that is used in baking
- 12 the time of day when the moon is out
- 13 to fly or glide high in the sky
- Word Bank

night brake flour break plain soar loan mail lone male plane flower sore knight

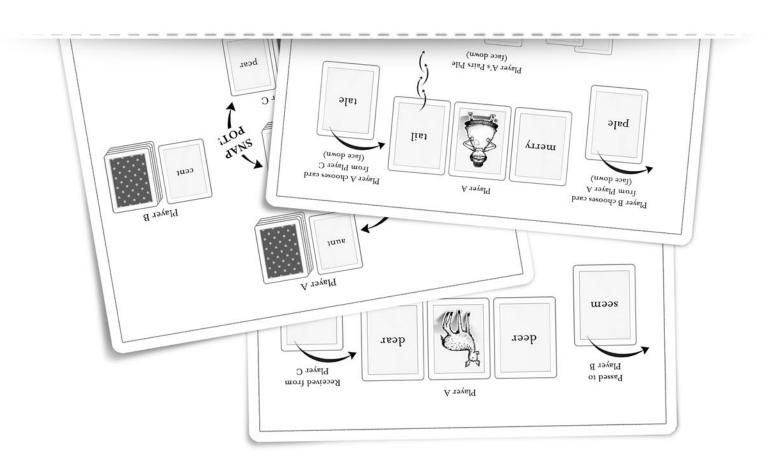
- 1 what humans fly in
- 2 to give someone something to use for a short period of time
- 3 the colorful blossom of a plant
- 7 single; only one
- 8 opposite of female
- 9 to smash or cause something to separate into pieces
- 10 a noble soldier who rides a horse and wears armor



Riddle:

What do you say to a soldier in shining armor when he goes to bed?

HOMOPHONE CARD GAMES



Snap!

You will need:

Word Cards for 26 sets of homophones.

Number of players:

2-6

Objective:

To win all of the cards.

How to play:

Shuffle the cards well and deal them all out, face down and one at a time, to each player. The cards do not need to come out even.

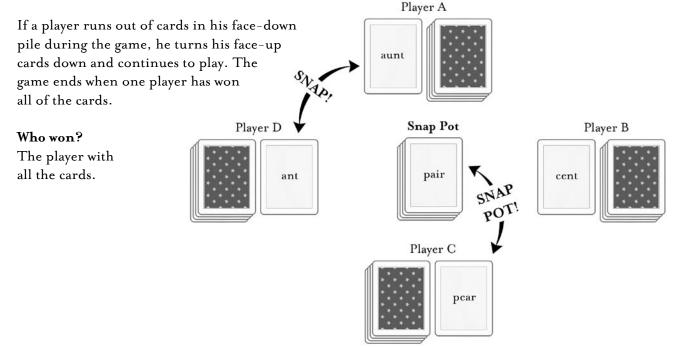
Each player puts his cards face down in a pile in front of him. The player on the dealer's left turns up his top card and begins a face-up pile next to his face-down pile. The next player does the same, and so on around the table.

Snap!

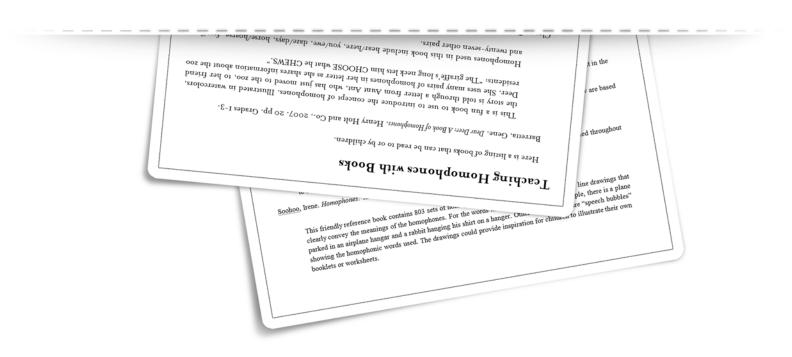
When someone turns up a card that forms a homophone pair with a card already face up on another player's pile, the first person to notice the two matched cards (ant/aunt, there/their, gait/gate, and so on) calls out "Snap!" and wins both piles. The player adds the cards to the bottom of his face-down pile.

If two players shout "Snap!" at the same time, the two piles are combined and placed face up in the middle of the table to form a "Snap Pot." Play continues where it left off with the player to the left of the last player who turned over a card.

If a player sees a card that forms a homophone pair with the card on top of the Snap Pot, he shouts "Snap Pot!" and wins all of those cards.



MORE TEACHING TOOLS



Teaching Homophones with Books

Here is a listing of books that can be read to or by children.

Barretta, Gene. Dear Deer: A Book of Homophones. Henry Holt and Co., 2007. 20 pp. Grades 1-3.

This is a fun book to use to introduce the concept of homophones. Illustrated in watercolors, the story is told through a letter from Aunt Ant, who has just moved to the zoo, to her friend Deer. She uses many pairs of homophones in her letter as she shares information about the zoo residents: "The giraffe's long neck lets him CHOOSE what he CHEWS."

Homophones used in this book include hear/here, you/ewe, daze/days, horse/hoarse, feat/feet, and twenty-seven other pairs.

Cleary, Brian P. and Brian Gable. How Much Can a Bare Bear Bear?: What Are Homonyms and Homophones? First Avenue Editions, 2007. 32 pp. Grades 1-3.

Lots of silliness going on here! Fun rhyme and rhythm come together in sentences such as, "A maid could be made to be very afraid if she heard a big herd on the deck." A good read-aloud.

Gwynne, Fred. A Chocolate Moose for Dinner. Aladdin, 2005. 48 pp. Grades 1-3.

A little girl recounts the things she overhears her parents talking about. Illustrations show what she imagines: an under toe at the beach, the story of the tortoise and the hair, and lions praying on animals. Some of the pages feature puns that children may not understand and that would need to be explained. Select pages could be shown to students to illustrate the homophone pairs moose/mousse, gorilla/guerilla, pray/prey, hangar/hanger, toe/tow, skull/scull, claws/Claus, and hair/hare.

Hobbs, James B. Homophones and Homographs: An American Dictionary. 4th ed. McFarland & Company, Inc., 2006. 376 pp. Grades 6-9 and teacher reference.

Hobbs started collecting homophones twenty-five years ago and never stopped. This compilation includes over 9,000 homophones plus short definitions. Good reference, plus it offers a challenge: the author will pay \$1 per homophone that is not listed in this volume.

Kelley, Maria Felicia. Buz Words: Discovering Words in Pairs. April Arts Press, 2006. 29 pp. Grades K-2.

Rhythmic verse makes this a fun read-aloud. Buz, a young boy, learns about word pairs like plane/plain, sun/son, and Buz/buzz while talking with his mother.

{ Student Record Sheet }

My List of Homophones

Name:

Tongue Twisters

Everybody loves tongue twisters! All of the twisters in this section contain at least one homophone and are marked *Easy*, *Moderate*, or *Difficult*. To aid you in quickly finding a twister to use in a particular lesson, the homophones used are listed below each tongue twister.

Photocopy the tongue twisters you want to share with your students and try some of these activities:

- * Have students underline all the homophones they find, then discuss the words in class.
- * Practice enunciation.
- * Put the strips in a bag and have each student pull out a twister and recite it.
- * Have students choose a set of homophones and write their own tongue twisters.
- * Have a contest to see who can say the twisters the fastest!

Homophones used in this tongue twister: the, there, through

		Easy
	Busy buzzing bumble bee.	
•••	Homophones used in this tongue twister: bee	
~		Easy
}	If you want to buy, buy. If you don't want to buy, bye-bye!	}
<u>_</u>	Homophones used in this tongue twister: buy, bye, to, want, you	~~~~
		Easy
	Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear, Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair, Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't very fuzzy, was he? Homophones used in this tongue twister: bear, hair, no, very	
		Easy
	No nose knows like a gnome's nose knows.	
	Homophones used in this tongue twister: gnome, knows, no, nose	
C	~~~~~	Easy
	The thin thief slid through that thicket over there.	
_		

Difficult

B;11	wi11	hroak	R1a	ko's	hlad	ılı hi	100	hack	brake.
DIII	will	preak	DIA	Ke s	prac	:K D1	Ke s	раск	prake.

Homophones used in this tongue twister: brake, break

Difficult

We'll reel in the real rear wheel.

Homophones used in this tongue twister: in, real, reel, the, we'll, wheel

Difficult

I saw Esau sitting on a seesaw. I saw Esau; he saw me.

Homophones used in this tongue twister: I

Difficult

Choose cool clothes, Cheryl.

Homophones used in this tongue twister: choose, clothes

Difficult

Betty Botter bought some butter, "But," said she, "the butter's bitter.

If I put it in my batter, it will make my batter bitter.

But a bit of better butter will make my bitter batter better."

So she bought some better butter, better than the bitter butter, put it in her bitter batter, made her bitter batter better.

So 'twas better Betty Botter bought some better butter.

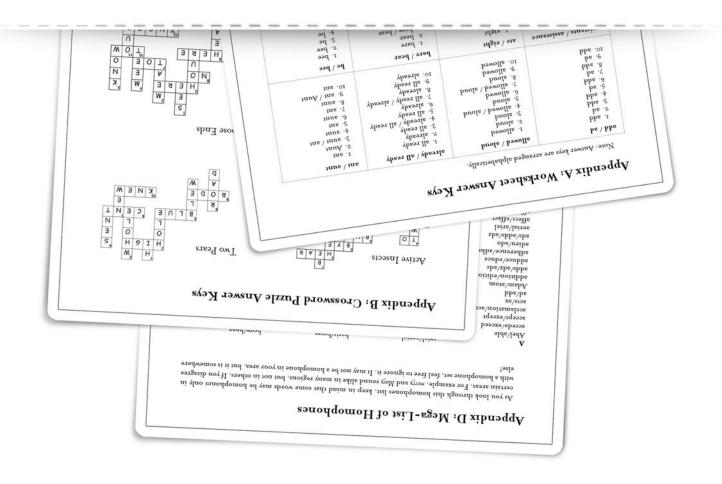
Homophones used in this tongue twister: but, I, in, made, so, some, the

Difficult

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.

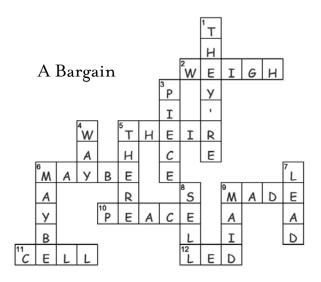
Homophones used in this tongue twister: sheik, the (Note that this is often cited as the hardest tongue twister in English!)

APPENDICES



Appendix B: Crossword Puzzle Answer Keys

Note: Answer keys are arranged alphabetically.



A Friendly Cowboy



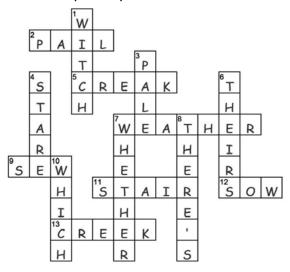
A Scary Story

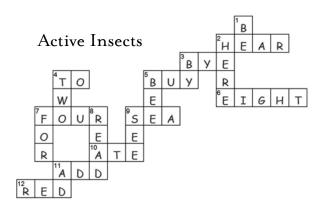
American Idol

16 P O L E

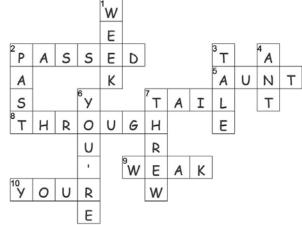
TE

17 G R





OL D 0 M OLL Е 0 N S R 10 C OR W Е N S Ι 0 Т M W Ε DA E D 14 15 R E A



An Interesting Wedding

Appendix B: Crossword Puzzle Answer Keys

Appendix C: Homophones Used in Activities

A	compliment 131, 157, 158	hare(s) 206, 212, 213	missed 93, 152
ad 32,145	course 119, 157, 207, 212	he'd208	mist
	creak 62, 150, 175	hear 36, 145, 148, 206	morn 209
add 32,145			
all206	creek 62, 150, 173	heard 85, 152	mourning
all ready 82,152	D	herd 85, 152	must 207
allowed118	$\frac{\mathbf{D}}{\mathbf{D}}$	here 36, 145, 148	
aloud118	dear 63, 147, 149, 175, 212	hi 41, 146, 177	<u>N</u>
already 82, 152	deer 63, 147, 149, 175, 212	high 41, 146, 177	naval 213
ant 60, 151, 171, 212	desert105, 156	him209	need209
assistance128	dessert105, 156	hoarse 86, 152, 206, 212	new 44, 146, 210
assistants128	die132, 158, 207	hole 42, 146, 205, 213	night 94, 153, 209, 212
ate 33, 145, 206	do207, 208	horse 86, 152, 212	no 45, 148, 204, 209
aunt 60, 151, 171, 212	dye 132, 158, 207, 213	hour 48, 148	nose 46, 147, 204
00, 131, 171, 212	dyed207	110 41	not 47, 148, 205, 208, 209,
В	ayea201	Ī	212
bald207	E	I 206, 210, 211	<u>O</u>
			
bare 61, 149, 171	eight33, 145, 206	idle	one 66, 149, 179, 206, 209
barren 209		idol	or205, 207, 209
bawl213	<u>F</u>	in 205, 208, 211	our 48, 148
be 28, 145, 205, 209	fair 106, 155	it's 87, 152, 209	
bear 61, 149, 171, 204,	fare106, 155	its 87, 152	<u>P</u>
207, 209	feat107, 155, 157		pail 68, 150, 181, 212, 213
beat 207	feet 107, 155, 157, 206, 213	<u>K</u>	pair 67, 146, 149, 181, 212
bee 28, 145, 204	fisher 205	knew 44, 146	pale 68, 150, 181, 212, 213
beet213	fissure205	knight 94, 153, 212, 213	pare67
blew 40, 146, 173	flea155, 208, 212	knot 47, 148, 212	passed 69, 151
blue 40, 146, 173	flee155, 208, 212	know 45,148	past 69, 151
boar 209	flew208	knows 46, 147, 204	patience 122, 157, 213
bold	flour 84, 153	KIIOWS 40, 147, 204	=
		т	patients
bore	flower	<u>L</u>	peace
bored 209	flue	lead 88, 154	peak
brake 83, 153, 211	for 35, 145, 205, 206,	led 88,154	pear 67, 146, 149, 181,
break 83, 153, 211	207, 209	lessen120, 157	212, 213
but 205, 208, 209, 211	foreword133, 158	lesson120, 157	pedal136, 158
buy 34, 145, 204, 208	forth 109, 155	loan 89, 153	peddle 136, 158
by 34, 145, 210	forward133, 158	lone 89, 153	peek 137, 212
bye 34, 145, 204	foul108, 156, 212		petal136, 158
,	four 35, 145, 213	<u>M</u>	pi213
<u>C</u>	fourth109, 155	made 90, 154, 211	pigeons 207
cache 212	fowl 108, 156, 212	maid	piece 95, 154, 206
capital129		mail	plain
capitol129	<u>G</u>	male	plane
=_			pole
cash	gait	marry 65, 149, 177	-
ceiling	gate 64, 175	Mary 65, 149, 205	poll
cell	gnome	may be 92, 154, 205	principal 123, 157, 213
censor 130, 158	gopher 205	maybe 92, 154, 205	principle123, 157
cent 52, 111, 146, 173	grate134, 158	meat 43, 148, 179, 212	_
chews 207	great134, 158	medal(s) 121, 157, 210	<u>R</u>
choose207, 211	grisly 212	meet 43, 148, 179, 212	read 37, 145, 213
close104, 155	grizzly 212	merry 65, 149, 177	real124, 157, 211
clothes 104, 155, 211	-	metaĺ 121, 157, 210	red 37, 145
coarse 119, 157, 207, 212	<u>H</u>	miner212	reel124, 157, 211
complement 131, 157, 158	hair 204, 212	minor 212	reigned213
			3

Appendix D: Mega-List of Homophones

As you look through this homophones list, keep in mind that some words may be homophones only in certain areas. For example, *merry* and *Mary* sound alike in many regions, but not in others. If you disagree with a homophone set, feel free to ignore it. It may not be a homophone in your area, but it is somewhere else!

A Abel/able accede/exceed accept/except acclamation/acclimation acts/ax ad/add Adam/atom addition/edition adds/adz/ads adduce/educe adherence/adherents adieu/ado ads/adds/adz aerial/ariel affect/effect affected/effected affects/effects afterward/afterword aid/aide ail/ale air/heir/err aisle/isle/I'll ale/ail all ready/already all together/altogether all ways/always all/awl allowed/aloud allude/elude alluded/eluded allusion/illusion allusive/elusive/illusive aloud/allowed already/all ready altar/alter altogether/all together always/all ways amend/emend analyst/annalist ant/aunt apatite/appetite apprise/apprize arc/ark

ariel/aerial ark/arc arrant/errant ascent/assent assistance/assistants ate/eight atom/Adam auger/augur aunt/ant aural/oral aureole/oriole away/aweigh awl/all ax/acts axel/axle axes/axis aye/eye/I ayes/eyes

В baa/bah baal/bail/bale babble/Babel bad/bade bah/baa bail/bale/baal bait/bate baited/bated bald/balled/bawled bale/baal/bail ball/bawl balled/bawled/bald balm/bomb/bombe band/banned bard/barred bare/bear baron/barren barred/bard barren/baron basal/basil

base/bass

based/baste

bases/basis

basil/basal

basis/bases bask/basque bass/base baste/based bate/bait bated/baited bawl/ball bawled/bald/balled bazaar/bizarre be/bee beach/beech bear/bare beat/beet beau/bow bee/be beech/beach been/bin beer/bier beet/beat bell/belle berry/bury berth/birth better/bettor bib/bibb bier/beer bight/bite/byte billed/build bin/been bird/burred birth/berth bite/byte/bight bizarre/bazaar blew/blue bloc/block blue/blew boar/bore board/bored boarder/border bode/bowed bold/bowled bolder/boulder

bomb/bombe/balm

bootie/booty

border/boarder

bored/board born/borne borough/burro/burrow bough/bow bouillon/bullion boulder/bolder bow/beau bow/bough bowed/bode bowled/bold boy/buoy braid/brayed braise/brays brake/break brayed/braid brays/braise breach/breech bread/bred break/brake bred/bread breech/breach brewed/brood brews/bruise bridal/bridle broach/brooch brood/brewed brows/browse bruise/brews brut/brute build/billed bullion/bouillon buoy/boy burger/burgher burred/bird burro/burrow/borough bury/berry bussed/bust

but/butt

 \mathbf{C}

buy/by/bye

cache/cash

byte/bight/bite

bore/boar

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