



Having fun with homonyms and homophones

CAPS Statement

Language structures and conventions

Working with words and sentences:

Homonyms (words that are pronounced or spelled alike but have different meanings, e.g. flour/flower)

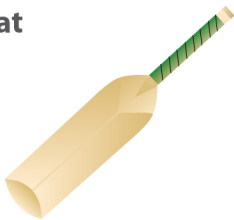
Note

Homonyms are any two words that are spelled the same and sound the same, but they have different meanings.

Homophones are two words that are spelled differently, but sound the same. They also have different meanings.

Example

Bat



Bat



Remember that homonyms are the same words, but have different meanings.

Example

Mail



Male



This afternoon we received *male* from Gogo!



This afternoon we received *mail* from Gogo!



Remember that homophones **sound** the same, but are spelled differently. We can use homophones in jokes. It is fun to play around with words.



Example

Read (*past tense*)



Red



This morning, gogo *read* the newspaper. ☒

This morning, gogo *red* the newspaper! ☐

Activity 1

Help Themba find two definitions for each word. Use a dictionary to help you. As soon as you have two different meanings for one word, you have found a homonym. Write two short definitions describing each homonym. You may use the homonym in a sentence to explain the word.

Example

space

The place out of this world.

The blank part between things.

①

trunk



②

bark



③

light



④

spell





Activity 2

Read this letter that Bongi received from her friend. She starts giggling at the end. Do you see why she is amused? 'Deer' has been circled as an example of a spelling mistake. Circle 14 more mistakes in the letter. Write them down and write their homophones next to them.

Deer Bongi

Eye hope you have red my lost letter two you. I wanted to tell you that I will be away the hole weak. I shall be visiting my grandfather's farm. I will send you flours from the farm. By the weigh, I herd you are going to be visiting your grandparents two. I won't be able to call you because the farm does knot have a telephone.

However, I hope we can stay in touch through male.

Greet your parents four me.

PS Please right back soon.

Mispelled word	Correct word (homophone)
① <u>Deer</u>	<u>Dear</u>
② _____	_____
③ _____	_____
④ _____	_____
⑤ _____	_____
⑥ _____	_____
⑦ _____	_____
⑧ _____	_____
⑨ _____	_____

Teacher Tip

Homonyms and homophones can be fun. You can add to the letter in Activity 2. Work as a class and together come up with some homophones, so that you can make deliberate mistakes in the letter.

