

Homographs

- Explain to students that homographs are words that are spelled the same, but have different meanings. For example, “fine” means good, but a “fine” is a fee of money that must be paid.
- Ask students if they can think of any homographs that they know. Say: “I can read a book or I might have read a book, but both words are spelt r-e-a-d.”
- Explain how context (the sentence/text as a whole) helps you to figure out which meaning is the right one. Say: “It makes sense if I say ‘I can /reed/ a book,’ but it doesn’t make sense if I say ‘I can /red/ a book.’”
- Have students find homographs in the text. Discuss the different meanings of the words, and how the context shows which meaning the author intended.
- Guide students through some other examples of homographs, and help them to identify the multiple meanings (e.g., file, lie, live, park, tear, watch).

Notes: