Republic of the Philippines Department of Education NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION Misamis Street, Bago-Bantay, Quezon City

UNIFIED SUPPLEMENTARY LEARNING MATERIALS (USLeM)



ENGLISH 3

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HOMOGRAPHS

EXPECTATION

Learning English lets you, students, to see things from a different perspective, or get a deeper understanding of another culture. It can be a challenging but rewarding experience. In this lesson, you will encounter challenging yet interesting tasks that will let you understand homographs. You will be familiar in distinguishing the different meanings of homographs and be able to identify them. There is no shortage of homographs in the English language, making them a fun topic to explore with you, learners. The most vital purpose in this is the avoidance of confusion, particularly if the words are written, not spoken, and one must rely solely on context to infer meaning from otherwise identical spelling.

As you go through this USLeM, you are expected to:

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- 1. identify homographs;
- 2. understand the meaning of common homographs using context clues; and

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3. complete sentences using homographs.

PRE-TEST

Choose the correct meaning for the homograph in **bold** for each sentence.

- 1. Joshua says that he **can** go on the fieldtrip next week.
 - a. to have permission
 - b. to preserve in a sealed container

2. On the final exam, we had to **recall** information we learned

during the whole school year.

- a. to bring back into memory
- b. to revoke or remove from public use or office

3. My mother allowed me to keep the **change** we got when we paid at the store.

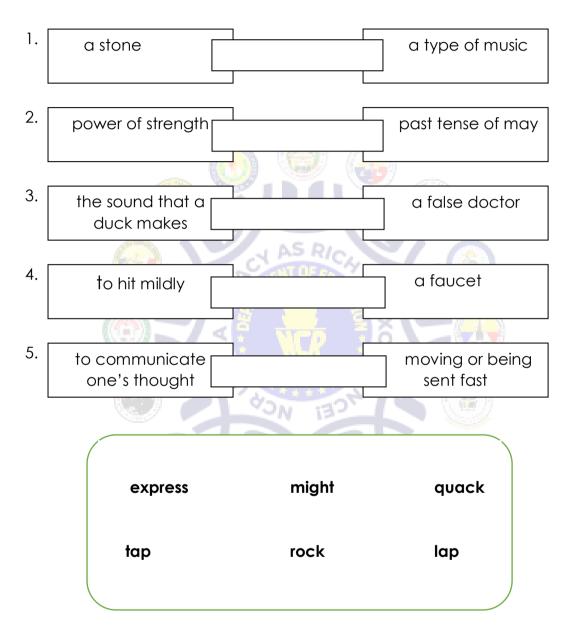
- a. to transform or convert something
- b. money given back when paying for goods or services
- 4. The skies look blue and **clear**, so probably it is not going to rain.
 - a. free from darkness or cloudiness
 - b. easily seen or understood

5. There were so many dirty dishes in the **sink**, I thought I would never finish washing them!

- a. to move down lower
- b. a basin connected to a water supply under water

LOOKING BACK

Read the pairs of meaning and choose a correct homograph from the box below and write your answer in the middle box.



BRIEF INTRODUCTION

The word **homograph** is originated from the Greek word "homos" which means "the same" and "graph which means "to write" and it is used extensively in language. It can be defined as words that are used in such a manner as to give two or more different meanings, where the words have the same spelling but different meanings and sometimes different pronunciations as well.

Some examples of homographs include:

 date (noun): a fruit or a specific point on a calendar date (verb): to go out with another person, usually with romantic intentions
 pick (noun): a tool used to chip away at something (example: ice pick) pick (verb): to choose something
 hide (verb): to go somewhere where you cannot be seen or found hide (noun): the skin of an animal
 wind (noun): the flow of air wind (verb): to turn something around. (Example: winding your watch so it starts working again.)
 lead (noun): to be in charge

Activity 1

Draw a box around the correct letter of definition of the underlined homograph in each sentence.

| What is your telephone <u>number</u>? a. a numerical value b. more dumb The <u>wound</u> stopped hurting after he put a band-aid on it. a. past tense of wind b. injury He walked in the hot <u>desert</u> without water. a. leave b. dry and sandy place She <u>dove</u> into the pool. a. a small white bird b. past tense of dive: to jump Into water I like to hear a <u>story</u> at bedtime. a. tale b. a floor or level of a building When they asked who would go first, I volunteered to lead the way. | | | | | | |
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| 2. The wound stopped hurting after he put a band-aid on it. a. past tense of wind b. injury 3. He walked in the hot desert without water. a. leave b. dry and sandy place 4. She dove into the pool. a. a small white bird b. past tense of dive: to jump Into water 5. I like to hear a story at bedtime. a. tale b. a floor or level of a building | | | | | | |
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| 6. When they asked who would go fi <mark>rst, I v</mark> olunteered to <u>lead</u> the way. | | | | | | |
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| a. a type of metal b. to go first with followers behind | | | | | | |
| 7. My sister said she wasn't crying, but there was a <u>tear</u> on her cheek. | | | | | | |
| a. to rip b. a drop of water from the eye | | | | | | |
| 8. Since my books were late, the librarian told me to pay a <u>fine.</u> | | | | | | |
| a. a sum of money paid to settle a matter b. very good | | | | | | |
| 9. Take a <u>bow</u> when you finish your performance. | | | | | | |
| a. to bend at the waist b. the front of a boat | | | | | | |
| 10. I don't think that Ron and Addie are a very good <u>match.</u> | | | | | | |
| a. slender piece of wood to start a fire b. go together | | | | | | |

Activity 2

A. Underline the homograph that matches the meaning provided

in italics after the sentences.

1. My dog will **bark** if you peel the **bark** off that tree.

(sound a dog makes)

2. According to my **ruler**, the **ruler's** crown is three inches tall.

(an instrument to measure length.)

3. The girl sitting to the **right** of me got the **right** answer. (correct)

- 4. It is very hard to carve into a hard surface. (difficult)
- 5. If you drop that **stick**, I will **stick** with you for this fight. (support)

B. Complete each sentence with appropriate homographs. Choose your answer from the box.



6. I'll _____ the package to open.

She left the room in

7. A ______ was buzzing against the window.

Let's _____ a kite.

- 8. She had to _____ her hands together.
 - I wear a shirt and _____ at work.
- 9. Headaches may be a _____ of stress.
- You forgot to _____ the cheque.
- 10. I like to _____ concert tonight.
 - I glance at my _____.

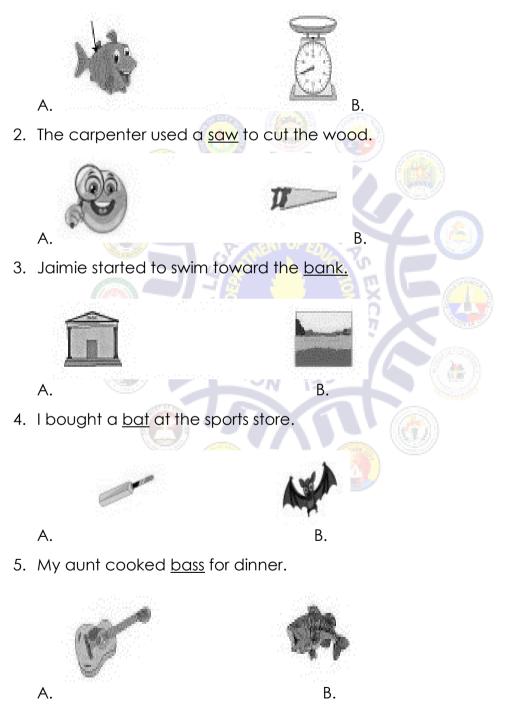
REMEMBER

- 1. Homographs are pairs of words that have the same
 - spelling, but different meanings.
 - Ellen **resent** her e-mail.
 - I hope John doesn't **resent** you for being here.
- 2. Homographs can also sometimes be **pronounced differently**:
 - Tie a pretty **bow** on that package.
 - Jim took a **bow** after the performance.
- 3. It is important to be able to use homographs because: the same word can have different meanings.
- 4. For example, if you are unaware of the multiple meanings behind the homograph "shot," it could be very confusing to receive a note which says, "You're going to get a shot this afternoon!" Does it refer to an opportunity, or an antibiotic? We could add some helping words for context. "You're going to get a shot, or a pill, this afternoon." We could use the word "pill" as a hint that this is an alternative to the shot.
- 5. Homographs have been **used in literature**, across time periods and cultures, in order to introduce ambiguity to the text, foreshadow developments in plot, invite humor in a pun, or invite deeper thought in a riddle.
- 6. Ask for me tomorrow, and you will find me a **grave** man. Grave" here means **serious**, but it also refers to **one's final resting place**.

CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Read the sentence and circle the correct letter of the picture for the underlined homograph.

1. The golden fish has shiny scales.



POST-TEST

Directions: Read each sentence and circle the letter of the correct meaning of the underlined homograph.

- 1. I went fishing and caught a <u>bass.</u>
 - a. a deep voice or tone
 - b. a kind of fish
- 2. The lady had a strong accent.
 - a. stress or emphasis
 - b. manner of speaking or pronunciation
- 3. Everyone decided to desert the town.
 - a. to leave
 - b. a hot arid region
- 4. I drove a <u>moped</u> to school.
 - a. a bicycle with a motor.
 - b. acted sad or gloomy
- 5. I saw a <u>bat</u> flying in the cave.
 - a. a piece of sporting equipment
 - b. a winged animal

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ANSWER CARD

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