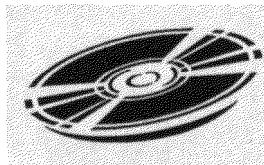


Same Words - Different Meanings

We are going to have a look at the words in English that have the same spelling, but different meanings. Sometimes even the sound can change, as for example:



Turn on CD Track 5 (2 mins 33 secs)

Examples

In the first three examples, the first word rhymes with “go” and the second with “how”.

bow = knot; to bow = to stoop
to row = to move a boat; to row = to argue, fight
to sow = to scatter (seed); sow = female pig

Here is another common word, with different meanings according to how it is pronounced:

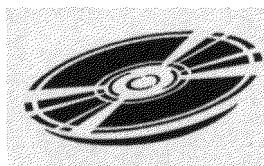
wind (rhyming with “tinned”) = moving air;
to wind (rhyming with “find”) = to turn

(Please listen to your CD for guidance about these sounds)

And now words with the same spelling and sound but different meanings:

Examples

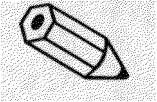
bear	= large animal;	to bear	= to carry
blow	= hard stroke;	to blow	= to produce air from mouth
can	= tin container;	can	= be able
check	= pattern of small squares;	to check	= to examine
counter	= small disk;	counter	= table-top in shop or office
cow	= animal;	to cow	= to bully, dominate
go	= turn;	to go	= to depart, leave
grave	= burial place;	grave	= serious
light	= not heavy;	light	= opposite of dark
part	= portion, share;	to part	= to leave
row	= line;	to row	= to move boat
tap	= device for providing liquid;	tap	= gentle blow

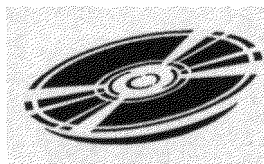


Turn on CD Track 6 (2 mins 13 secs)

Now we come to the third Activity which practises this last quite difficult aspect of English: words with the same spellings as others, but different

meanings:

Activity 3	In the following sentences you will see written in bold print (dark), the words you should replace with one of the words from the last section: e.g. bear replaces carry.
	<p>a) The man dealt the other a violent punch on the back</p> <p>b) Be quiet! I am not dominated by you!</p> <p>c) Everyone wants to have a share of the cake!</p> <p>d) I gave Peter a light blow on the head</p> <p>e) We were playing ludo, and we put our tokens on the board</p> <p>f) The customs officers examined our luggage carefully</p> <p>g) All the soldiers were standing in lines</p> <p>h) The room was dark so I switched on the lamp</p> <p>i) The situation is very serious; we don't know what to do about it</p> <p>j) I'd like some tins of tomato soup; they're quicker to prepare</p>



Turn on CD Track 7 (1 mins 48 secs)

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