

# Literacy Moments: Improving your English!





Have you heard of this word before?

Homophone

Challenge: If you do know what it is, can you explain the two parts of the word?

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# Have you heard of this word before?

## Homophone

From the Greek 'homos'  
meaning 'same'.

From the Greek 'phon' meaning  
'sound'.

So the word literally means 'same sound'.

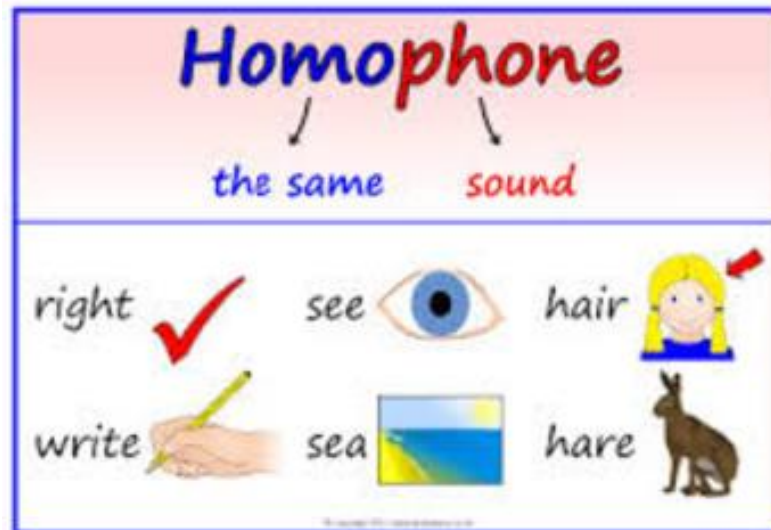
Now have you any idea what this word means?

Challenge: What is the **simplest** way you can define it?

# Homophones...

These are words which **sound the same** but are **spelled differently** and have **different meanings**.

Because they sound the same, they are easy to get wrong. Therefore, it's really important to understand different homophones and how to use them correctly in sentences, otherwise your meaning may become unclear!



# Take a look at this list...

How many do you recognise?

## homophones

words that sound the same but  
have different meanings and spellings

air - heir  
**allowed - aloud**  
altar - alter  
**ate - eight**  
band - banned  
bare - bear  
base - bass  
**bean - been**  
bite - byte  
billed - build  
blew - blue  
**board - bored**  
boy - buoy  
brake - break  
bread - bred  
**buy - bye - by**  
ceiling - sealing  
cell - sell  
cent - scent  
cereal - serial  
check - cheque  
coarse - course  
dear - deer  
die - dye  
draft - draught  
faint - feint  
fair - fare  
feat - feet  
find - fined  
flew - flu  
**flour - flower**  
gorilla - guerilla  
grate - great

groan - grown  
guessed - guest  
hair - hare  
hall - haul  
heal - heel - he'll  
**hear - here**  
heard - herd  
hi - high  
higher - hire  
him - hymn  
**hole - whole**  
holy - holey - wholly  
idle - idol  
**it's - its**  
**key - quay**  
knew - new  
knight - night  
knot - not  
**know - no**  
knows - nose  
lead - led  
links - lynx  
loan - lone  
made - maid  
mail - male  
mare - mayor  
marshal - martial  
**meat - meet**  
miner - minor  
mind - mined  
missed - mist  
moose - mousse  
**muscle - mussel**

none - nun  
**one - won**  
packed - pact  
pain - pane  
pair - pear  
passed - past  
pause - paws  
pea - pee  
peace - piece  
peak - peek  
plain - plane  
plum - plumb  
pole - poll  
practice - practise  
praise - prays - preys  
principal - principle  
profit - prophet  
rain - reign  
raise - rays  
rap - wrap  
read - reed  
**read - red**  
**right - write**  
role - roll  
root - route  
rose - rows  
sale - sail  
soar - sore  
scene - seen  
**sea - see**  
seas - sees - seize  
sew - so  
side - sided

sight - site  
sole - soul  
some - sum  
**son - sun**  
stair - stare  
stake - steak  
steal - steel  
**sweet - suite**  
tail - tale  
tear - tier  
**there - their - they're**  
**threw - through**  
throne - thrown  
tide - tied  
tire - tyre  
**to - too - two**  
vain - vane - vein  
wail - whale  
**waist - waste**  
**wait - weight**  
watt - what  
**way - weigh - whey**  
we - wee  
**weak - week**  
**wear - where**  
we'd - weed  
we'll - wheel  
**weather - whether**  
**which - witch**  
whine - wine  
**who's - whose**  
**wood - would**  
**your - you're**



# We'll be looking at these over the next few weeks!

But today we're focusing on:  
'THERE', 'THEIR' AND 'THEY'RE'!

1. Have you seen these words before?
2. Do you know the meanings?

Challenge: How could you explain the differences?



Take a look at this...

Does it make the meanings clear?

THERE are people who never paid attention to THEIR teacher in school.

THEY'RE probably wondering what this means.



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# Can we define the three words?

**There:**

**Their:**

**They're:**

**Challenge:** Can you come up with rules to help remember each word?

# Can we define the three words?

**There:** Concerned with **place**. i.e. I went there.

**Their:** Concerned with **ownership**. i.e. It's their ball.

**They're:** Contracted (shortened) **they are**. The **apostrophe** indicates an **omitted (missed)** letter.

## Challenge:

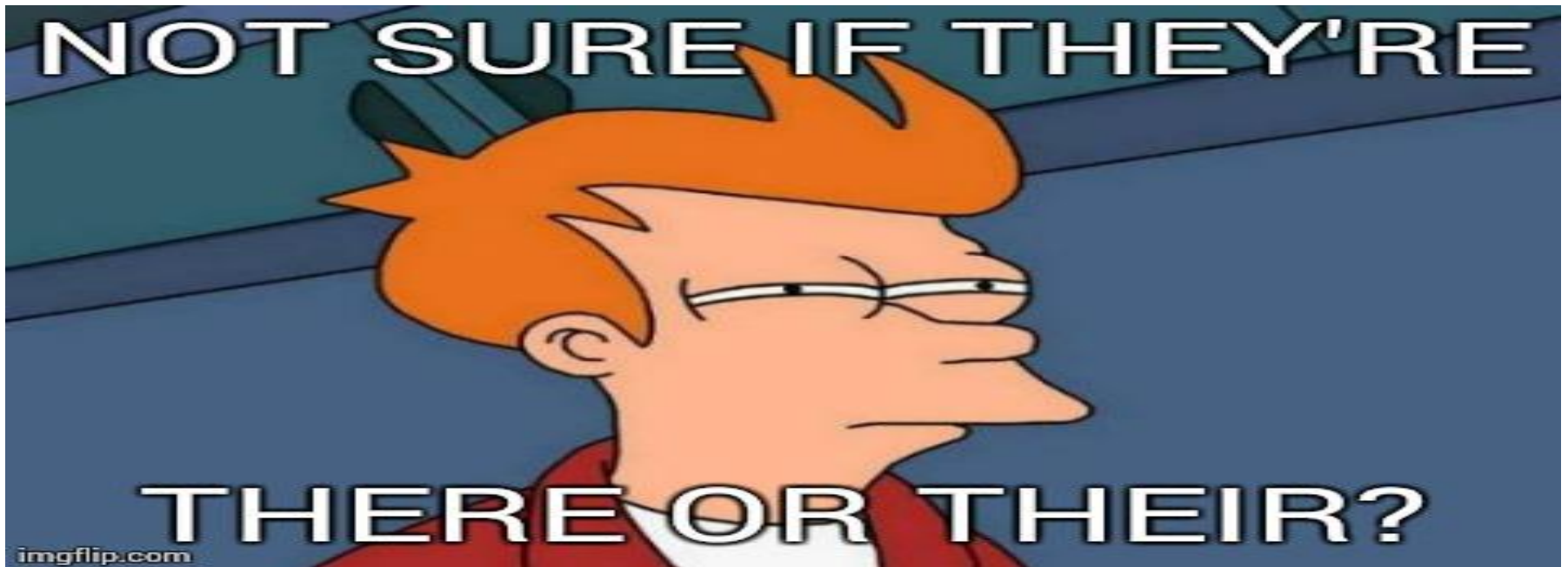
Can you come up with rules to help remember each word?

# Use your learning!

## Task (five minutes):

1. In pairs, come up with three sentences using each word.
2. Write them down and swap them with another group.
3. Mark the work; have they used the correct form?

**Challenge:** Like the earlier example, produce sentences that contain more than one version of the word.





And finally, don't forget...

**EVERY TIME YOU SPELL  
THEY'RE/THEIR/THERE INCORRECTLY**



**GOD KILLS A KITTEN**

# Key Words from Today's Session...

**Homophone:** Words that sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings.