

1.3 have you ever seen...?

...Warming up!...

1. Words that have the same spelling, but differ in meaning when used in different contexts are called homographs. For example,
Ans.

Homographs	Sentences
1. Bow	(a) The prince slowly put down the bow and arrow. (b) "Should I bow if I see the king?" asked the little boy.
2. Content	(a) One should always be content with what one has. (b) You must always check the nutritional content of what you eat.
3. Live	(a) One must learn to live within one's means. (b) It is dangerous to touch a live wire.
4. Minute	(a) His voice was getting louder every minute. (b) There were minute particles of dust in the air.
5. Tear	(a) A tear fell from the eye of the old woman. (b) "Tear the paper into four pieces." said the teacher.

2. When words with the same spelling or pronunciation are used in such a way that they convey more than one meaning, the figure of speech involved is called pun. A pun is a play upon words.

Ans. (1) Where do you find giant snails? On the ends of giants' fingers.
(2) How do turtles talk to each other? By using shell phones!
(3) You can communicate with a fish by dropping it a line.
(4) What do you get from a pampered goat? Spoilt milk. used in poetry.

3. In poetry, when a question is asked, not to get an answer but to emphasise a point or fact, it is an example of Interrogation or Rhetorical Question.

Ans. (1) If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?
(2) If you prick us, do we not bleed?
(3) What's in a name?

... English workshop.....

1. From each line in the poem, pick out the word that is a homograph. Write its meaning in the context of the phrase used in the poem. Then write the other meaning implied in the question.

Ans.

Stanza	Word	One meaning	Other meaning
First	1. Bed	1. piece of furniture	1. bottom of the river, sea, etc.
	2. Head	2. upper part of human body	2. part of hammer with which we hit a nail
	3. Foot	3. part of the leg on which a person stands or moves	3. base of a mountain
	4. Hose	4. a pair of stockings or tights	4. a flexible tube
Second	1. Eye	1. the organ of sight in one's face	1. the hole at the blunt end of a needle to pass a thread
	2. Wing	2. an organ in birds meant for flying	2. a section or part of a building
	3. Ribs	3. curved bones extending from the spine to the sternum	3. thin metal spokes attached to the central stick of an umbrella
	4. Trunk	4. a large storage box	4. woody stem of a tree
Third	1. Teeth	1. hard structures in the mouth for biting and chewing	1. long metal prongs on a garden tool used for clearing leaves, etc.
	2. Hands	2. the end part of the arm, beyond the wrist	2. the pointers on a clock that show the time
	3. Plot	3. an evil or wicked plan	3. a small area of land
	4. Bark	4. the sharp cry of a dog or fox	4. the hard outer covering of the tree trunk

2. Write two lines from the poem that you find the most humorous. Justify your choice.

Ans. (1) Can you tickle the ribs of a parasol?

I find this humorous because I can just imagine someone tickling the spokes of an umbrella and trying to get it to respond!

(2) Does the needle ever wink its eye?

I find this humorous because I think of myself holding a needle that is winking!

3. Find from the poem three examples of each :

(a) Interrogation

Ans. (1) Have you seen a sheet on a river bed?

(2) Does the needle ever wink its eye?

(3) Are the teeth of a rake ever going to bite?

(b) Pun

Ans. (1) Has the foot of the mountain any toes?

(2) Can you tickle the ribs of a parasol?

(3) Have the hands of a clock any left or right?

(c) Personification

Ans. (1) Has the foot of the mountain any toes?

(2) Does the needle ever wink its eye?

(3) Can you tickle the ribs of a parasol?

(d) Alliteration

Ans. (1) Or a single hair from a hammer's head?

(2) Or open the trunk of a tree at all?

(3) And what is the sound of the birch's bark?

4. Form groups of four or five. Think, discuss and add at least one more stanza, using the same style and devices as the poet has used. It should include homographs,

interrogation and the same rhythm and rhyme scheme.

Ans. Have/Does/Are

Do elephants bathe with their trunks on, all in a batch?

Have scientists created a flea from scratch?

Are the bees having a house swarming party with honey?

Did the lion spit out the clown because he tasted funny?

5. Read the following sentences carefully. Then fill in the blanks using appropriate words from the brackets, to make puns.

Ans. (1) She had a photographic memory but never developed it.

(2) He was struggling to work out how lightning works when it struck him.

(3) Every calendar's days are numbered.

(4) A bicycle cannot stand on its own because it is too tired.

(5) I'm reading a book on anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down the book.

(6) I'd tell you a chemistry joke but I know I wouldn't get a reaction.

(7) What do you call Watson when Sherlock isn't around? homeless.

(8) I would tell a history joke, but it is too old fashioned.

6. Read: 'Alice in wonderland' by Lewis Carroll.

Ans. Its an activity for students.