

ruined.

Conj. Co-ord. I have called, yet no one answers.

Yet.

Adv. of Time. You may yet (= even now, still) find him.

1.5. HOMONYMS

Homonyms and homophones are often the cause of confusion; they are frequently used one for the other, but these two are different linguistic concepts.

A Homonym is a word that has the same sound and spelling as another, but is different in meaning and origin. For example, the noun 'bear' and the verb 'bear' are homonyms of each other. On the other hand, a Homophone is a word that sounds the same as another, but is different in spelling, meaning and origin. For instance, knew and new are homophones of each other.

In real language situations, the boundary between homophones and homonyms often gets blurred. Thus, many words have some characteristics of both concepts. For this reason, homophones are quite often classified as homonyms.

Moreover, it has been pointed out by several linguists that languages like Chinese, Korean, Japanese, etc., are tone languages. That is why, they have a predominance of homophones. Whereas the Germanic group of languages, to which English, German, Dutch and Norwegian languages belong, are stress oriented languages. In these languages, homonyms are quite common.

This theory of Joseph Greenburgh, propounded in the book titled *The Language Universal* (Stanford Univ. Press, 1963), has not got universal acceptability in the field of comparative linguistics. But so far as the English language is concerned, it has an abundance of homonyms, whereas one has to search in a good dictionary for homophones. Furthermore, some people make a further division of homophone, and have coined the term "Homograph", which implies that a word has the same spelling as another, but is different in origin, grammar or pronunciation. For example, the noun 'record' and the verb 'record' are homographs of each other. In general, however, homophones and homographs are taken together as homophones.

Some Homophones and Homonyms

aisle, isle	dear, deer	knew, new
altar, alter	dew, due	knot, not
ascent, assent	die, dye	know, no
ate, eight	done, dun	lain, lane
bail, bale	earn, urn	lead, led
ball, bawl	fair, fare	lessen, lesson
bare, bear	faint, feint	lie, lye
be, bee	feat, feet	loan, lone
base, bass	fir, fur	made, maid
beach, beech	flea, flee	mail, male
beat, beet	flew, flue	main, mane
beau, bow	flour, flower	manner, manor
bell, belle	fore, four	mantel, mantle
berth, birth	foul, fowl	meat, meet
bier, beer	gait, gate	medal, meddle
blew, blue	great, grate	miner, minor
board, bored	groan, grown	moan, mown
bough, bow	hair, hare	muscle, mussel
brake, break	hall, haul	none, nun
buy, by	hale, hail	one, won
canvas, canvass	heal, heel	pail, pale
ceiling, sealing	hear, here	pain, pane
cell, sell	heard, herd	pair, pare, pear
cellar, seller	heir, air	peace, piece
cent, sent, scent	hoes, hose	peal, peel
cereal, serial	hole, whole	plain, plane
chord, cord	hour, our	pore, pour
cite, sight, site	idol, idle	pray, prey
clause, claws	in, inn	pride, pried
coarse, course	kernel, colonel	principal, principle
council, counsel	knead, need	profit, prophet
creak, creek		
currant, current		

rain, rein, reign
raise, raze
read, red
real, reel
rest, wrest
rhyme, rime
right, write
ring, wring
road, rode, rowed
role, roll
rose, rows
rough, ruff
sail, sale
scene, seen

sea, see
seam, seem
sow, so
slay, sleigh
sleight, slight
soar, sore
sole, soul
some, sum
son, sun
stake, steak
stair, stare
stationary, stationery
steal, steel
straight, strait

tail, tale
their, there
throne, thrown
threw, through
to, too, two
toe, tow
veil, vale
vain, vane, vein
wade, weighed
waist, waste
wait, weight
ware, wear

1.6. HOMOPHONES

Homophones refer to words that are similar in sound (i.e., in pronunciation) but different in meaning, spellings and origins.

A List of Homophones

air, heir	coarse, course	hoard, horde
advise, advice	cereal, serial	hair, hare
accept, except	compliment, complement	haven, heaven
altar, alter	cord, chord	halo, hollow
ale, ail	confident, confidant	incite, insight
ascent, assent	comma, coma	idol, idle
addition, edition	die, dye	knotty, naughty
ought, ought	dose, doze	kerb, curb
bear, bare	dual, duel	license, licence
bale, bail	desert, dessert	lose, loose
birth, berth	device, devise	lighting, lightening
born, borne	empire, umpire	loath, loathe
beach, beech	extant, extent	martial, marshal
break, brake	eye, I	ordnance, ordinance
boar, bore	esteem, steam	patrol, petrol
cast, caste	earn, urn	principle, principal
canvas, canvass	fair, fare	pair, pare
cite, sight	feet, feat	plan, plane
cell, sell	gate, gait	personal, personnel
cease, seige	heal, heel	quite, quiet
council, counsel	hear, here	rain, rein, reign
check, cheque	hail, hale	roll, role
		story, storey