

Vocabulary – Word Groups

100 Common English Homographs

Homographs are words which have the same **spelling**, but different **sounds** and **meanings**, for example, 'live' (on TV) and 'live' (reside). 'Homograph' comes from the Greek words *homos* (same) + *graph* (writing).
Group A: nouns (stress on 1st syllable), verbs (stress on 2nd syllable). Group B are general homographs:

Group A

Homograph:	Noun:	Verb:
accent	speaking	highlight
ally	friend	work with
combat	fight	prevent
combine	machinery	mix
commune	collective	pray
compost	fertiliser	break down
compound	bunker	combine
compress	bandage	flatten
conduct	behaviour	e.g. orchestra
conflict	war	clash
conscript	new recruit	recruit
consort	companion	accompany
construct	theory	build
content	matter	feel happy
contract	agreement	reduce
contrast	difference	compare
convert	new believer	change
convict	prisoner	find guilty
decrease	reduction	reduce
default	standard	evade
defect	fault	change sides
desert	wilderness	abandon
digest	publication	process
discharge	emission	dismiss
discount	price reduction	disregard
entrance	way in	captivate
escort	companion	accompany
essay	homework	attempt
exploit	adventure	make use of
export	goods	distribute
extract	excerpt	remove
finance	funding	provide money
impact	effect	hit
implant	transplant	insert
import	introduction	bring in
incense	e.g. candle	anger
incline	slope	slant
increase	growth	enlarge
insert	leaflet	include
insult	abuse	offend
intrigue	conspiracy	interest
invite	invitation	request
object	thing	complain
perfume	bottle	action
permit	licence	allow
pervert	deviant	corrupt
present	gift	award
proceeds	profits	continues
process	procedure	walk
produce	food	make
progress	headway	advance

Homograph:	Noun:	Verb:
project	assignment	protrude
protest	rally	complain
rebel	dissenter	protest
recall	memory	remember
recap	summary	review
record	vinyl disc	note down
refill	top-up	replenish
refund	repayment	repay
refuse	rubbish	decline
relapse	deterioration	deteriorate
remake	new version	re-create
reprint	reissue	republish
research	study	investigate
retake	exam	recapture
second	ordinal no.	transfer
segment	section	divide
subject	topic	endanger
survey	enquiry	measure
suspect	defendant	presume
torment	annoyance	annoy
transplant	e.g. heart	relocate
transport	vehicle	move
update	news	inform
uplift	support	raise
upset	shock	annoy

Group B

Homograph:	Meaning 1:	Meaning 2:
bass	n. instrument	n. fish
bow	n. violin	n. ribbon
close	adj. near	v. shut
does	n. female deer	v. 3 rd form: do
excuse	n. reason	v. overlook
house	n. building	v. action
frequent	adj. regular	v. visit often
intimate	n. close friend	v. suggest
lead	n. metal	v. direct
live	adj. broadcast	v. exist
minute	n. 60 seconds	adj. very small
moped	n. vehicle	v. past / mope
perfect	adj. flawless	v. refine
putting	n. golf skill	v. placing
read	v. infinitive	v. 3 rd form
resume	n. CV	v. restart
row	n. spreadsheet	v. argue
separate	adj. detached	v. disconnect
sewer	n. cesspit	n. seamstress
sows	n. female pigs	v. seeds
tear	n. crying	v. rip
use	n. e.g. single	v. expend
wind	n. breeze	v. coil
wound	n. cut	v. past of wind