

Area/Skill - LA, Writing	Cognitive Skill Level - Application	Correlation to Framework - 01.01	Lesson Number - 28
<p><b>Activity Title - Homonyms</b></p> <p><b>Goal/Objective</b></p> <p>To understand how homonyms can improve student writing.</p> <p><b>Lesson Outline</b> <b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Writing well is a skill that impacts a person's life daily in a variety of different ways, whether it is writing a note to a child's teacher, writing a personal or business letter, or filling out a workplace document. Understanding how to use homonyms can improve student writing. Word choice is one standard that is assessed on the essay rubric. This lesson is designed to improve word choice by understanding how to use homonyms.</p> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Provide students with the following definition: <i>Homonym—a word that is pronounced the same as another word, but has a different spelling and meaning.</i></p> <p>Brainstorm a list of words and identify a homonym for each. Have the class break into small groups and take five words from the list. Have them write definitions for each of the words and a sentence that uses each word. Have the students share their work with the class.</p> <p><b>Debriefing/Evaluation Activity</b></p> <p>Review the student's responses for the activity. Discuss how the misuse of homonyms can create miscommunication in writing.</p>		<p><b>Materials/Texts/Realia/Handouts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of words from which to create homonyms</li> <li>Paper and pencils</li> <li>Handout - <b>Common Homonyms</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Real-Life Connection</b></p> <p>Learning how to use a correct word and improving one's writing skills through writing a memo at work, communicating with a child's teacher, helping children with homework, filling out documents, understanding what is read in newspapers, magazines, and books, etc. is important. Being able to use words correctly assists people in communicating throughout all mediums more effectively.</p>		<p><b>Extension Activity</b></p> <p>Divide the class into small groups. Provide the students with a word and have them identify a homonym, create a sentence using the homonym, and define the word. Students may also write words, definitions, and sentences on separate index cards. Shuffle the cards and hand them out. Students take turns to match the word to the correct definition and sentence.</p> <p><b>ESE/ESOL Accommodations</b></p> <p>Have students locate or draw pictures to match with words.</p> <p>Pair students who need help with another student who can assist them.</p> <p>Have students write the word in one color and use another color for the homonym.</p> <p>Put homonyms to music; create a rap.</p>	

## GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans

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### Activity Title - Homonyms

#### Introduction

*Say:* When you are writing an essay for the GED Language Arts, Writing Test, you will need to make appropriate and correct word choices so that your writing will be effective. A basic understanding of homonyms can help you improve your skills in word choice.

#### Main Activity

*Ask:* What is the definition of a homonym?

Write down the different definitions that students provide.

*Say:* A homonym is a word that is pronounced the same as another word, but has a different spelling and meaning. An example would be two, too, and to or hair and hare. Today we are going to identify some common homonyms and what each one means.

Have the students brainstorm a list of 20 words that have a homonym. Write them on the board. Divide the class into small groups. Have each group take five words from the list.

*Say:* When you have chosen your five words, write a definition for each word, use it correctly in a sentence and then write the word's homonym, write a definition for that word and use it correctly in a sentence. When you are finished, you will share your sentences with the group.

#### Debriefing/Evaluation Activity

Have the students share their sentences with the group. *Ask:* Which homonym should be used in this sentence? Why?

Share with the students the handout of common homonyms. You may wish to have the students write a poem or story or create a rap using homonyms.

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Language Arts, Writing Lesson 28 Handout

### Common Homonyms

Hare	Hair	
Bare	Bear	
Hear	Here	
Tear	Tier	
Red	Read	
Blue	Blew	
Horse	Hoarse	
Be	Bee	
See	Sea	
Pair	Pare	Pear
Tear	Tare	
Seen	Scene	
Ate	Eight	
Cent	Scent	Sent
Doe	Dough	
Rain	Reign	
Dear	Deer	
Way	Weigh	
Shear	Sheer	
Sun	Son	
Pour	Poor	
Seem	Seam	
Herd	Heard	
Meet	Meat	
Know	No	
Beau	Bow	
Heel	Heal	
Turn	Tern	
Made	Maid	
Led	Lead	
Sum	Some	
Sale	Sail	
Need	Knead	
To	Too	Two
There	Their	They're