

Introduction to Homographs

Lesson 1

Homographs are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings, origins and sometimes pronunciations. Call on students to give examples of homographs and their meanings. Working with a partner, have the students find the meanings of the following words. Then, have them use dictionaries to discover both the pronunciation of the words and the origin of their meanings.

Angle (to fish with a hook and line; a shape formed from two connecting lines)

Bark (sound a dog makes; tree covering)

Close (shut; near)

Flounder (a fish; struggle)

Hide (keep out of sight; animal skin)

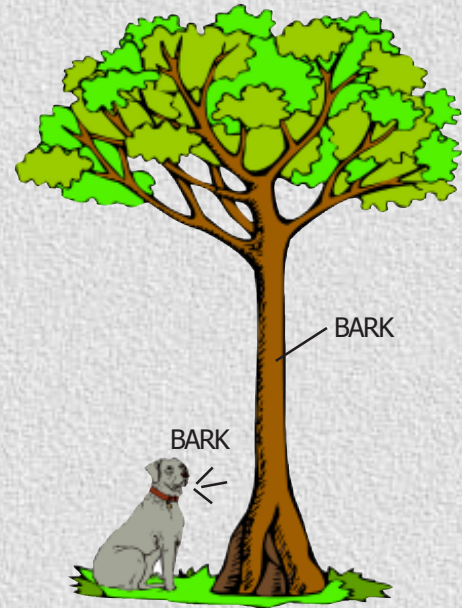
Lead (metallic element; to show the way)

Invalid (disabled person; not valid)

Poach (to trespass and steal; to cook an egg)

Squash (a vegetable; to flatten)

Vault (a place to keep valuables; to jump)



Remind students that when they play the SCRABBLE® game they should try to determine whether a word is a homograph and what possible endings might be added to the end of the word. The word FLEW, for example, can mean the past tense of FLY or a dog's flank. So FLEW can take an S.