

# **Similar Sounding Words**

## Similar Sounding Words

### Similar Sounding Words

A homonym means a word that has the same sound and sometimes, but not always, the same spelling but has a different meaning, for example:

- *right* (correct) and *write* (to record)

The best way to remember the difference between these words is to practice putting them into sentences that mean something to you personally.

Sometimes it helps to think of hints, for example to remember the difference in stationary and stationery think of the third last letter “e” – *paper goes in an envelope*.

Another hint is for words like advice/advise and licence/license, if it ends in *ce* it is a thing (noun) and *se* it is the action (verb).

## Similar Sounding Words

accept	receive, tolerate
except	exclude
addition	to add
edition	publication
advice	an opinion (noun)
advise	the action of offering an opinion (verb)
affect	influence
effect	result
allowed	permitted
aloud	clear, distinct
bare	naked, exposed
bear	animal (e.g. koala), support, breed
blew	puff of wind
blue	colour
bow	bend, front of boat, ribbon
bough	tree branch
brake	stop
break	smash
caught	past tense of "catch"
court	enclosure (e.g. tennis), to romance
compliment	to praise or flatter
complement	to complete (something)
decent	proper
descent	movement downwards
dissent	disagreement



## Similar Sounding Words

discreet	reserved, respectful
discrete	individual, distinct
elicit	to bring out
illicit	illegal
flaw	defect
floor	lower surface (e.g. of a room)
formally	conventionally
formerly	in the past
forth	forward in time, place or order
fourth	follows third
gorilla	a large ape
guerilla	soldier
grate	to shred
great	wonderful
heard	past tense of to listen
herd	a group of animals
here	this place (opposite of there)
hear	sense with the ears
higher	further up
hire	to rent
hole	an opening
whole	complete
its	belonging to it
it's	short for "it is"



## Similar Sounding Words

know	to understand
no	negative
lead	metal, to guide
led	past tense of to guide
lessen	to make smaller
lesson	something learned
licence	permit from government (noun)
license	action to allow (verb)
loose	opposite of tight
lose	opposite of win
mail	items sent through post
male	opposite of female
meat	flesh
meet	get together
muscle	fibrous sinew of body
mussel	shellfish
new	opposite of old
knew	past tense of know
patience	endurance
patients	persons under medical care
past	time before now
passed	past tense of "to pass"



## Similar Sounding Words

piece	portion, part
peace	quietness, silence
plain	easy to understand
plane	an aircraft
paw	an animal's foot
poor	opposite of rich
pore	a hole in the skin
pour	to let liquid run
presence	being there, appearance
presents	gifts
principal	important, boss, headmaster, money
principle	law, moral
rain	downpour, shower, storm
reign	to rule
rein	to restrain (as in reins of a horse)
read	to look at a book
reed	a plant
right	correct, opposite to left,
write	to record (often on paper)
rite	ritual, ceremony
road	highway
rode	past tense of ride
scene	where an action occurs
seen	past tense of to see



## Similar Sounding Words

seem	look like
seam	a join
sight	vision
site	place, grounds (e.g. website)
cite	quote or make a reference to
so	likewise, therefore, to such a degree
sew	join together or stitch
some	a few
sum	to add numbers
soul	spirit
sole	single, bottom of the foot, fish
stationary	not moving
stationery	writing materials
straight	unbending
strait	a water passageway
tail	rear (e.g. dog's tail, shirt tail)
tale	a story
tea	a drink
tee	golf support
their	belonging to them
there	that place
they're	short for "they are"



## Similar Sounding Words

theirs	belonging to them
there's	short for "there is"
threw	past tense of throw
through	in one side and out the other
to	towards or headed for,
too	also, excessively
two	the number 2
vary	make a change in
very	also, excessively
waist	middle of the body
waste	to use up needlessly, garbage
wait	stop
weight	heavy
weak	not strong
week	seven days
weather	e.g. rain, sunshine, storms
whether	alternative, one or the other
wether	male sheep
which	particular one
witch	sorcerer
whose	belonging to whom
who's	short for "who is" or "who has"
wood	timber
would	hopeful
your	belonging to you
you're	short for "you are"

