

What Are Homophones?

The English language has several words that have similar pronunciations but different spellings. Such words are called homophones, for example, weight and wait, write and right, and sun and son. Although there is little scope for confusion when homophones occur in conversation, it is important to use the correct spelling of such words in writing.

Example 1

Incorrect: She gave a humer^eus account of her visit to the marketplace.

Correct: She gave a humor^ous account of her visit to the marketplace.

The bone of the arm is called humerus, whereas humorous is an adjective that is used to refer to someone or something funny and entertaining, especially in a clever or witty way.

The above example refers to someone giving a funny account; therefore, humorous and not humerus should be used.

Example 2

Incorrect: The children were boar^d of playing indoors.

Correct: The children were bore^d of playing indoors.

Example 3

Incorrect: I would like to read the summ^ery of this article.

Correct: I would like to read the summar^y of this article.