

HOMONYMS AND OTHER SIMILAR-SOUNDING WORDS

accept (receive)
except (leave out)

birth (childbearing)
berth (place of rest)

access (approach)
excess (too much)

board (plank; food)
bored (drilled; uninterested)

adapt (change)
adopt (choose)

born (given birth to)
borne (carried)

advice (suggestion)
advise (to recommend)

break (smash, split)
brake (stopping device)

affect (influence)
effect (result)

canvas (fabric)
canvass (examine)

aisle (space between rows)
advise (to recommend)

capital (city; wealth)
capitol (building)

allot (assign, distribute)
a lot (a large amount)

ensor (prohibit)
sensor (measuring device)

already (previously)
all ready (completely prepared)

choose (to select)
chose (past tense of choose)

allude (suggest)
elude (escape)

coarse (rough)
course (way, path)

allusion (suggestion)
illusion (deception)

complement (make complete)
compliment (praise)

altar (church table)
alter (change)

conscience (moral sense)
conscious (aware)

altogether (entirely)
all together (completely prepared)

council (committee)
counsel (advice; adviser)

ascent (climb)
assent (agree)

cursor (computer marker)
curser (swearer)

always (at all times)
all ways (all methods)

dairy (milk-producing farm)
diary (daily book)

bare (uncovered)
bear (carry; the animal)

dessert (sweet food)
desert (dry land)

bazaar (market)
bizarre (weird)

device (a mechanism)
devise (to arrange)

dissent (disagreement)
descent (movement downward)

dual (having two parts)
duel (fight between two people)

dye (color)
die (perish)

elicit (draw forth)
illicit (improper)

eminent (noteworthy)
imminent (impending)

ensure (make certain)
insure (indemnify)

envelope (noun)
envelop (verb)

everyday (ordinary)
every day (each day)

exercise (activity)
exorcise (drive out)

fair (just)
fare (food; fee)

faze (disturb)
phase (stage)

formerly (at an earlier time)
formally (according to a pattern)

forth (forward)
fourth (follows third)

gorilla (ape)
guerilla (fighter)

hear (perceive)
here (in this place)

heard (perceived)
herd (group of animals)

heroin (drug)
heroine (principle female character)

hole (opening)
whole (entire)

holy (sacred)
wholly (entirely)

human (of people)
humane (merciful)

immigrate (come in)
emigrate (leave)

its (possessive of *it*)
it's (contraction of *it is*)

know (be aware)
no (negative, not yet)

later (subsequently)
latter (last thing mentioned)

lead (metal)
led (guided)

lesson (instruction)
lessen (reduce)

lightning (electric flash)
lightening (make less heavy)

loose (not snug)
lose (to misplace, fail to win)

maybe (perhaps)
may be (could be)

meat (food)
meet (encounter)

miner (excavator)
minor (person under a given age)

pair (two)
pear (fruit)
pare (peel; reduce)

passed (went by)
past (an earlier time)

peace (absence of war)
piece (part, portion)

peer (look; equal)
pier (pillar)

personal (private)
personnel (staff)

perspective (angle of view)
prospective (in the future)

plain (simple; flat land)
plane (flat surface; smooth off)

pray (ask, implore)
prey (hunt down; what is hunted)

principle (rule)
principal (chief, chief person; sum of money)

prophecy (noun)
prophesy (verb)

quiet (silent)
quite (really, positively, very much)

rain (precipitation)
reign (rule)

right (proper, entitlement)
rite (ceremony)

road (path)
rode (past of *ride*)

scene (setting, stage setting)
seen (perceived)

sense (perception)
since (from that time)

set (to put)
sit (to be seated)

shone (past of *shine*)
shown (displayed)

stationary (not moving)
stationery (writing paper)

straight (not curved)
strait (narrow place)

tack (angle of approach)
tact (sensitivity, diplomacy)

taut (tight)
taught (past of *teach*)

than (word of comparison)
then (at that time)

their (possessive of *them*)
there (in that place)
they're (contraction of *they are*)

threw (past of *throw*)
through (by way of)

to (in the direction of)
two (the number)
too (also)

waist (middle of torso)
waste (squander)

weak (feeble)
week (seven days)

wear (carry on the body)
where (in what place)

weather (atmospheric conditions)
whether (if, in case)

which (what one)
witch (sorceress)

whose (possessive of *who*)
who's (contraction of *who is*)

write (inscribe, record)
wright (builder)
right (correct)

your (possessive of *you*)
you're (contraction of *you are*)