

Multiple Meaning Words



Answer these questions about multiple meaning words on another sheet of paper.

1. What's the difference between a buck in the woods and a buck in your pocket?
2. What's the difference between a bill on a bird and a bill in the mail?
3. What's the difference between a calf on your body and a calf in the barnyard?
4. What's the difference between a pupil in school and a pupil in your body?
5. What's the difference between a perch in a bird cage and a perch in a lake?
6. What's the difference between a block in a city and a block in a football game?
7. What's the difference between a file in an office and a file in a toolbox?
8. What's the difference between an organ in church and an organ in your body?
9. What's the difference between a tie in your closet and a tie in a race?
10. What's the difference between a bed in a garden and a bed in a house?
11. What's the difference between a pen in your desk and a pen at a kennel?
12. What's the difference between a cast in a play and a cast on your leg?

Multiple Meaning Words



Some words can have meaning as either a noun or a verb. Read the following pairs of phrases. In the blank before each item, write **noun** if the boldfaced word is used as a noun and **verb** if it is used as a verb. Then, write a sentence using each phrase correctly.

_____ 1. rope a **steer** _____

_____ **steer** the car _____

_____ 2. **drop** of rain _____

_____ **drop** the box _____

_____ 3. **set** the alarm _____

_____ **set** of dishes _____

_____ 4. **pound** of apples _____

_____ **pound** the nail _____

_____ 5. scratch the **finish** _____

_____ **finish** the job _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Some words can have meaning as either a noun or a verb. Read the following pairs of phrases. In the blank before each item, write **noun** if the boldfaced word is used as a noun and **verb** if it is used as a verb. Then, write a sentence using each phrase correctly.

_____ 1. **check** the weather _____

_____ write a **check** _____

_____ 2. sew a **dress** _____

_____ **dress** the baby _____

_____ 3. **rose** from his chair _____

_____ picked a **rose** _____

_____ 4. **type** the report _____

_____ **type** of grapes _____

_____ 5. **plant** a garden _____

_____ a power **plant** _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Some words can have meaning as either an adjective or a noun. Read the following pairs of phrases. In the blank before each item, write **adj.** if the boldfaced word is used as an adjective and **noun** if the word is used as a noun. Then, write a sentence using each phrase correctly.

_____ 1. cure the **patient** _____

_____ a **patient** teacher _____

_____ 2. a sunken **submarine** _____

_____ a **submarine** sandwich _____

_____ 3. an **iron** will _____

_____ heat the **iron** _____

_____ 4. photo **negative** _____

_____ a **negative** attitude _____

_____ 5. pay a **fine** _____

_____ a **fine** day _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Read the following pairs of phrases. In the blank before each item, write **adj.** if the boldfaced word is used as an adjective and **noun** if the word is used as a noun. Then, write a sentence using each phrase correctly.

_____ 1. the **current** news _____

_____ a river **current** _____

_____ 2. a law **firm** _____

_____ a **firm** mattress _____

_____ 3. a **fair** this weekend _____

_____ a **fair** decision _____

_____ 4. the **main** idea _____

_____ the water **main** _____

_____ 5. **key** people in the company _____

_____ a **key** to the suitcase _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Some words can have many different meanings. Write the meanings from the box under each word that belongs with that word.

Stock

Spring

Light

Club

Meanings

set on fire
a symbol on a playing card
time of year
part ownership in a company
a source of water
to illuminate
to jump up
to land on something
a kind of broth or soup
a coil
to surprise someone with something

placing goods on a store shelf
a kind of sandwich
not heavy
a piece of golf equipment
a group of animals
a weapon
fill a pond with fish
to beat something
opposite of dark
a group of people
lamp or bulb

Multiple Meaning Words



Each sentence contains a pair of repeated words. Each of these words has a different meaning. Write a definition for each word (in order) below the sentence.

1. Did you see the **husky husky**?

husky _____

husky _____

2. Mrs. Ruiz was a **patient patient**.

patient _____

patient _____

3. Does a **fly fly**?

fly _____

fly _____

4. Have you ever **felt felt**?

felt _____

felt _____

5. I see an **orange orange**.

orange _____

orange _____

6. Did the **duck duck**?

duck _____

duck _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Each sentence contains a pair of repeated words. Each of these words has a different meaning. Write a definition for each word (in order) below the sentence.

1. A **can can** take up space.

can _____

can _____

2. Will the **rest rest** under the tree?

rest _____

rest _____

3. I saw the **roll roll**.

roll _____

roll _____

4. Can the **swallow swallow** it?

swallow _____

swallow _____

5. Why did the **miss miss**?

miss _____

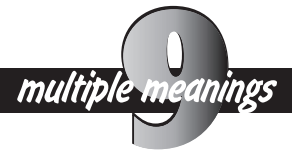
miss _____

6. Can a **bear bear** a lot of heat?

bear _____

bear _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Write two sentences for each word, using a different meaning in each sentence.

1. loaf _____
loaf _____

2. might _____
might _____

3. quarter _____
quarter _____

4. dart _____
dart _____

5. jam _____
jam _____

6. grade _____
grade _____

7. mean _____
mean _____

8. bowl _____
bowl _____

9. arms _____
arms _____

10. tune _____
tune _____

Multiple Meaning Words



Write two sentences for each word, using a different meaning in each sentence.

1. **coast** _____
coast _____

2. **straw** _____
straw _____

3. **fiddle** _____
fiddle _____

4. **nag** _____
nag _____

5. **count** _____
count _____

6. **racket** _____
racket _____

7. **bolt** _____
bolt _____

8. **meet** _____
meet _____

9. **pit** _____
pit _____

10. **screen** _____
screen _____

Verbals—Gerunds and Participles

Verbals are words or word groups made from verbs. They do not act as verbs in sentences, though, but as other parts of speech. Two types of verbals are *gerunds* and *participles*.

A gerund is a verb that ends with *-ing* and acts as a noun. *Read* becomes the gerund *reading*.

- Reading is my favorite pastime.

A participle is a verb form used as an adjective. The *-ing* form of a verb or the past participle form of a verb may be used. Here are some examples of verbs, their participle forms, and sample sentences:

- run—running
The **running** machine made a lot of noise.
- excite—excited
The **excited** children lined up to play the game.
- broke—broken
The **broken** window let in many mosquitoes.

Sometimes a sentence may contain a phrase with an *-ing* verbal whose meaning could make sense as either a gerund or a participle. In that case, try interpreting the sentence both ways. Here are a couple of examples:

- **Kicking** mules can cause problems.
gerund interpretation: If you kick a mule, the mule may kick back!
participle interpretation: Mules that kick a lot can cause trouble for their owners.
- He knew that **drinking** water would be important.
gerund interpretation: He knew that he would need to drink more water to improve his health.
participle interpretation: Finding safe water to drink is important.

Multiple Meaning Phrases



Write the gerund form for each of these verbs. Then use the gerund in a sentence.

1. climb _____

2. watch _____

3. bake _____

4. drive _____

5. wrap _____

6. rush _____

7. cut _____

8. burn _____

9. sew _____

10. write _____

Multiple Meaning Phrases



Write the *-ing* participle form for each of these verbs. Then use the participle in a sentence.

1. sing _____

2. freeze _____

3. paint _____

4. pass _____

5. rush _____

6. pour _____

7. laugh _____

8. study _____

9. grow _____

10. roll _____

Multiple Meaning Phrases

Write two sentences for each verb. In one sentence, use the verb as a gerund. Use the verb as a participle in the other sentence.

1. **sleep**

gerund _____

participle _____

2. **count**

gerund _____

participle _____

3. **watch**

gerund _____

participle _____

4. **move**

gerund _____

participle _____

5. **read**

gerund _____

participle _____

Multiple Meaning Phrases



Write two sentences for each verb. In one sentence, use the verb as a gerund. Use the verb as a participle in the other sentence.

1. **scratch**

gerund _____

participle _____

2. **paint**

gerund _____

participle _____

3. **open**

gerund _____

participle _____

4. **chew**

gerund _____

participle _____

5. **pass**

gerund _____

participle _____

Phrasal Verbs

A phrasal verb consists of a verb plus one or more words that has a meaning different than the original verb. For example, *water down* is phrasal verb. The original verb *water* means to pour water on plants. *Water down* means to dilute something, as in “to water down the grape juice.”

Underline the phrasal verb in each sentence below. Then explain the meaning of the phrasal verb as it is used in the sentence.

1. Anita found out who had written in her book.

2. Were you talked into that by your sister?

3. My legs gave out after I hiked all day.

4. The senator sounded off about the proposed bill on TV last night.

5. The heat did in our cabbage plants.

6. She always shows off when you're around.

Multiple Meaning Phrases

Underline the phrasal verb in each sentence below. Then explain the meaning of the phrasal verb as it is used in the sentence.

1. I made do with oatmeal, although I really wanted waffles for breakfast.

2. Don't turn down that opportunity!

3. Aunt Fay wouldn't give in to my cousin's whining.

4. She was made over by the beautician.

5. Maybe the neighbors will pipe down soon!

6. The rude customer cut in line.

7. He cut up and acted like a clown all day.

8. The cell phone cut out and I couldn't hear her.

9. I looked after my grandmother's dog while she was visiting Uncle Alex.

10. Sunita didn't tell me that she used up the laundry detergent.

Multiple Meaning Phrases



Sometimes it may be hard to tell whether a verb has its usual meaning or whether it is being used as a phrasal verb with another different meaning. For example, you might see a sentence like this:

- Mac blew it off.

This sentence could be interpreted as Mac blowing something, like lint or a feather, off of his shoulder with his breath. If “blew off” is interpreted as a phrasal verb, the sentence would mean that Mac didn’t pay attention to something or let it bother him, like somebody calling him a name.

Choose the two possible meanings from the box below for each sentence and write each of their letters in the blanks.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. Don't put it down. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. When do you want to wrap it up? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. I didn't want to stand out there. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Is she going to back out? | _____ | _____ |
| 5. He looked down on that school. | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Do you know if he made it up? | _____ | _____ |

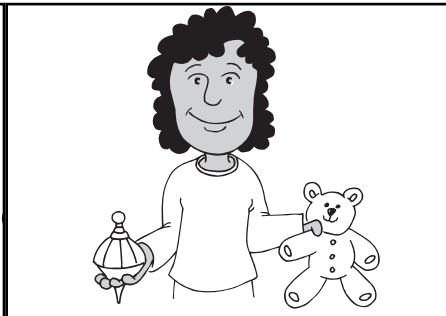
- | | |
|---|--|
| a. Exit in reverse from a building | g. Criticize or make fun of something |
| b. Tell an imaginary tale | h. Stand above and see something |
| c. Wait on the exterior of a building | i. Prepare a gift for giving |
| d. Complete a missed task or test | j. Get attention due to being different |
| e. Decide not to do something after all | k. Drop or lay something somewhere |
| f. Finish something | l. Feel that something is inferior or not good |

Multiple Meaning Sentences

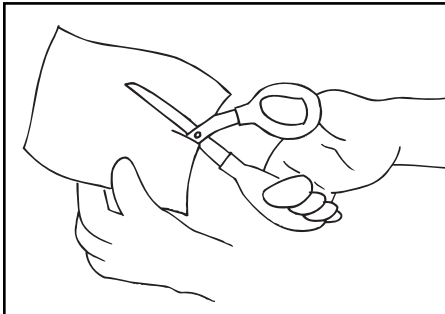
Put the letter for each sentence in the blank under the picture that illustrates its meaning. You will use each letter twice.

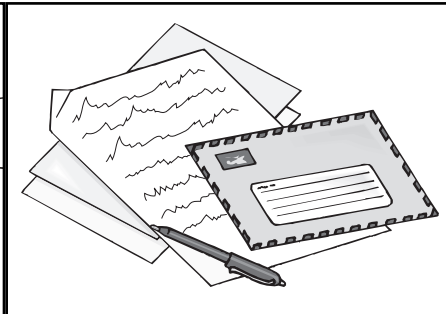
- a. Cara has a toy dog.
- b. Megan clipped the papers.
- c. Did you write that letter?
- d. She showed her baby toys.

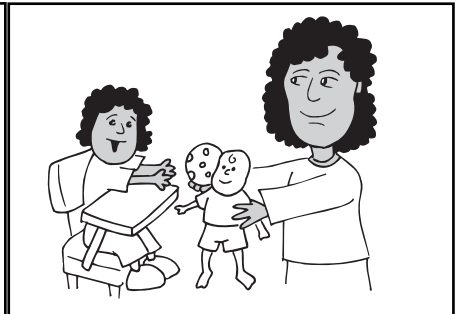


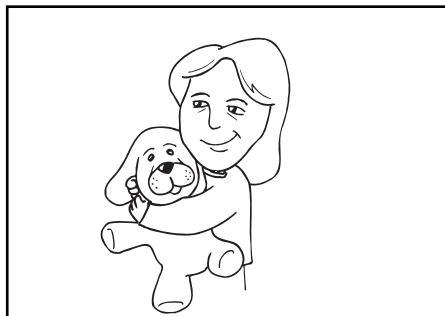


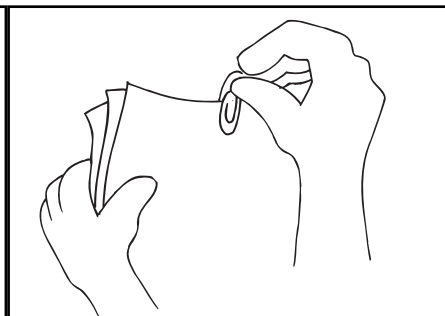








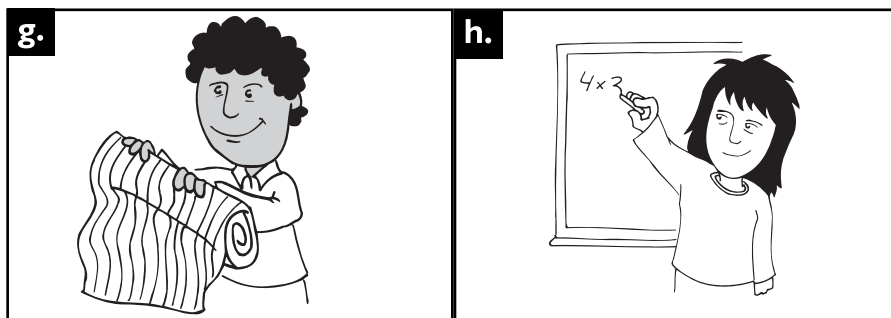
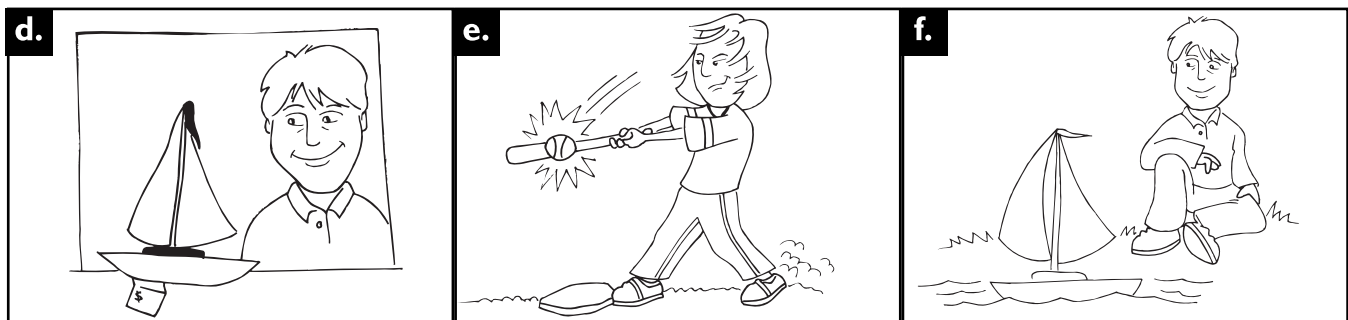
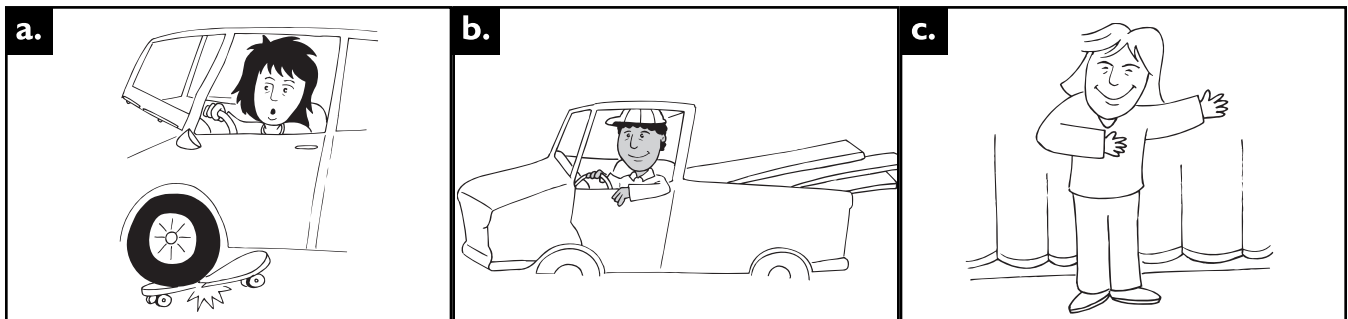




Multiple Meaning Sentences

Imagine that the following sentences are captions or headlines from newspaper stories. Find two pictures that might go with each caption and put their letters in the blank after the caption.

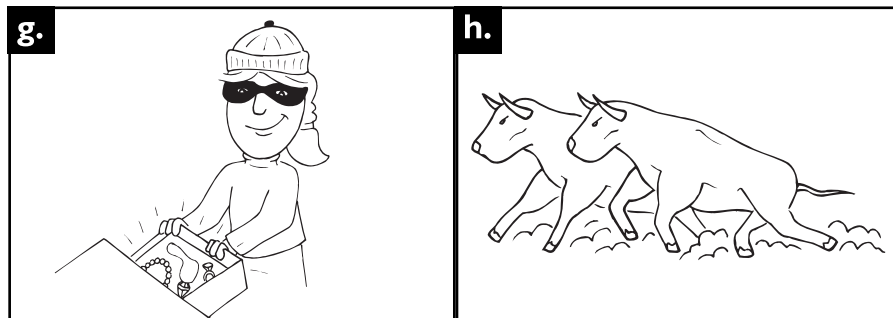
1. She really made a hit! _____
2. The teacher ran over it yesterday. _____
3. Juan likes sailing boats. _____
4. He finally got the material. _____



Multiple Meaning Sentences

Imagine that the following sentences are captions or headlines from newspaper stories. Find two pictures that might go with each caption and put their letters in the blank after the caption.

1. Burning trash can be smelly! _____
2. They were going to charge. _____
3. She cleaned out the room. _____
4. He was boxing all afternoon. _____



Explaining Multiple Meaning Sentences with Cues



Explain two meanings for each sentence. Pay particular attention to the boldfaced word or words. You can make your explanations orally or write them on another sheet of paper .

1. I hope that **bounces back**.
2. They saw the **open house**.
3. He really knows how to **push those buttons**.
4. Did you see the **door stop**?
5. Gina needs the **rest**.
6. What does he remember about that **date**?
7. She read the **clown books**.
8. They are **leaning in that direction**.
9. Has it been **filed** yet?
10. Will this **cover it**?
11. He likes that **rock**.
12. That was an awful **ride**.

Explain two meanings for each sentence. You can make your explanations orally or write them on another sheet of paper.

1. He thought it was a foot.
2. Did you buy the hose?
3. This is a good spring.
4. This chili is too hot to eat!
5. Miguel likes change.
6. I am about to bake.
7. Mandy saw the truck stop.
8. My grandmother got some new pens.
9. That was really deep.
10. My neighbor enjoys racing cars.
11. I threw the scales away.
12. She didn't make it up.