

★ LESSON 102: "A RACE" & HOMOPHONES ONE / WON Poetry Antonym Studio • Orthoepy • Penmanship

1 Poetry Antonym Hunt: Read Marie Golden's poem, locate each word in *italics*, and write its opposite on the penmanship line. 8 Italicized Targets • 26px Standard Line

► A RACE TEXTBOOK PAGE 56

A *mad* little tear
And a *sad* little tear
Once started a queer little race.
"I am ahead!"
The *angry* tear said,
As it hurried *down* Peggy's *small* face.

But the sad little tear
Met a *glad* little tear,
And together they hurried apace.
"I'm *sorry*, mamma,
So sorry, mamma!"
And the sorry-glad tear *won* the race.

— MARIE GOLDEN.

WRITE THE OPPOSITE FOR EACH WORD:

► 1. *mad* (Adj.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 2. *sad* (Adj.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 3. *angry* (Adj.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 4. *down* (Adv./Prep.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 5. *small* (Adj.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 6. *glad* (Adj.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 7. *sorry* (Adj.) ↔ Opposite: _____

► 8. *won* (Verb (past)) ↔ Opposite: _____

2 Homophone Studio: Examine "one" and "won." Both sound exactly alike (/wʌn/), but differ in spelling and meaning. Acoustic Twin • Orthographic Divergence

► one Numeral / Pronoun • /wʌn/

Meaning: A single unit, person, or thing (the number 1).
Sample: "Only **one** bright star shone in the evening sky."
Spelling Note: Begins with o pronounced with a /w/ glide. Silent final e.

► won Past Tense of Win • /wʌn/

Meaning: Achieved victory in a race, or gained by honest labor.
Sample: "The sorry-glad tear **won** the race."
Spelling Note: Spelled with initial w + short o (/ʌ/) + n. Irregular past of win.

3 Wheeler's Classical Synthesis: Supply the missing homophones (one / won) and write the couplet in your best handwriting. Textbook Page 57 • Character & Labor

► What is a gentleman? Is it not _____ (one / won)
Honestly eating the bread he has _____ ? (one / won)

• Line 1: Use one (a person)
• Line 2: Use won (earned by toil)

Wheeler's Elementary Speller (1901) • Lesson 102 • Poetry Antonyms & Homophones one / won Standard 26px Handwriting • Page 1 of 1 (Student Practice)



1. Analysis of the 8 Italicized Poetry Words & Target Antonyms

Poetic Context • Accepted Antonyms • Orthography

Poem Word	IPA & Part of Speech	Poetic Context	Primary Antonym(s)	Orthographic & Teaching Focus
1. mad	Adj. /mæd/	The angry first tear	calm, glad, pleased	Short ă CVC base. Colloquial Victorian sense for furious/angry.
2. sad	Adj. /sæd/	The weeping companion tear	glad, happy, cheerful	Phonogram -ad family (exact rhyme with mad and glad).
3. angry	Adj. /'æŋgri/	Describing the aggressive tear	gentle, peaceful, calm	Velar nasal -ng- (/ŋg/) + vowel ending -y (/i/).
4. down	Adv. /daʊn/	Hurried down Peggy's face	up	Diphthong ow = /aʊ/ (contrasted with low in Lesson 101).
5. small	Adj. /smɔ:l/	Peggy's small face	large, big, great	Broad a (/ɔ:/) before doubled ll (Ball-rule phonogram -all).
6. glad	Adj. /glæd/	The tear of reconciliation	sad, sorrowful, unhappy	Initial consonant blend gl- with short ă (rhymes with mad, sad).
7. sorry	Adj. /'sɒri/	Peggy's humble apology	glad, proud, remorseless	Doubled rr preserving short ɔ; root of repentance in child.
8. won	Verb /wʌn/	The victorious tear	lost	Irregular past of win. Homophone with cardinal numeral one.

2. Homophone Clinic: one versus won (Acoustic Twin /wʌn/)

Etymology • Grammatical Role • Dictation Key

one (/wʌn/) • Old English ǣn

- **Grammar:** Cardinal numeral (1) or indefinite pronoun ("a person").
- **Couplet Answer:** "What is a gentleman? Is it not **one**..." (refers to a human being / individual).
- **Acoustic History:** The initial /w/ sound developed in Southwestern English dialects around the 14th century and became standard, though the historical spelling with o- remained frozen.

won (/wʌn/) • Old English winnan

- **Grammar:** Past tense and past participle of the strong verb win.
- **Couplet Answer:** "...Honestly eating the bread he has **won**?" (earned through labor).
- **Teaching Tip:** Remind students that won begins with the letter w just like win. If it means "triumphed" or "earned," write **w-o-n**!

3. Decodable Dictation Sentences (Reinforcing Poetry Antonyms & Homophones)

Oral Dictation • Syntax • Punctuation

1. "The **angry** tear ran **down** her **small** cheek until a **glad** smile **won** the race." (Focus: angry, down, small, glad, won • poem antonym synthesis)
2. "Peggy was **sorry** that she had been **mad**, so she wiped the **sad** tear away." (Focus: sorry, mad, sad • short a rhymes, emotional reconciliation)
3. "Only **one** brave child **won** the medal for speaking the honest truth." (Focus: one vs. won • homophone discrimination in the same sentence)
4. "A gentleman is **one** who eats the sweet bread he has **won** by faithful toil." (Focus: Wheeler's moral couplet • character education and dignity of labor)
5. "The **small** child was **sorry** for her angry words, and **one** loving hug made her mother **glad**." (Focus: small, sorry, one, glad • reconciliation syntax & homophone precision)

4. Evaluative Scoring Rubric & Socratic Discussion Guide

20 Total Points

Antonym Precision (5 pts)

All 8 italicized words correctly identified with legitimate semantic opposites.

Homophone Usage (5 pts)

Flawless distinction between one (individual) and won (earned/triumphed) in couplet.

Penmanship (5 pts)

Accurate letter placement on standard 26px lines with midline control; clean punctuation.

Moral Synthesis (5 pts)

Comprehension of Wheeler's definition of gentlemanliness through honest earning.

Socratic Inquiries for Oral Language & Character Education:

- *Emotional Transformation:* Why does the poet say the "sorry-glad tear" won the race? How does an honest apology turn sadness into joy?
- *Dignity of Labor:* Wheeler asks: "What is a gentleman?" How does eating bread one has **won** through earnest work differ from eating bread given freely or taken without effort?