

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 177 • HOMOPHONES TRIAD: SO, SOW, SEW (/soʊ/) **SŌ • SŌW • SĒW = /soʊ/**

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Orthographic Triad • Three Spellings for the Single Sound /soʊ/

1. **so:** Adverb or conjunction meaning in this manner, to such a degree, or therefore (Old English *swā*).
2. **sow:** Verb meaning to scatter seed upon the ground for growing crops (Old English *sāwan*; vowel team **ow**).
3. **sew:** Verb meaning to fasten or stitch with a needle and thread (Old English *siwian*; vowel team **ew**).

CONCEPT

Biblical Proverb: “Whatsoever a man **soweth**, that shall he also reap.” (Galatians 6:7)

1

Classical & Scriptural Copywork • 26px Standard Track

Copy the models demonstrating all three words:

Whatsoever a man soweth in springtime, that shall he reap in autumn.

She sat by the window to sew a seam, and was so happy all day.

2

Homophone Cloze Studio • so vs. sow vs. sew

Write **so**, **sow**, or **sew** in each blank:

1. The farmer went forth into the plowed field to _____ barley.

2. Will you help me _____ this loose pearl button upon my coat?

3. The weather was _____ chilly that we wore our woolen cloaks.

4. “As you _____, _____ shall you reap,” says the ancient proverb.

3

Original Composition • Homophone Triad Synthesis

Compose a meaningful sentence incorporating at least two of the homophones:

Sentence: _____

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIC RULES • THE TRIAD /soʊ/

1. 1. **Simple Open O in So:** The grammatical particle **so** is an open monosyllable ending in o, pronounced long /oʊ/.

2. 2. **Agricultural OW in Sow:** The verb **sow** (scatter seed) uses ow for long /oʊ/. Note that the noun sow (female pig) uses ow for /aʊ/!

3. 3. **Irregular EW in Sew: sew** (needlework) is unique: the digraph ew usually sounds /u:/ (*new, grew*), but in sew it uniquely represents long /oʊ/.

LESSON 177 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

HOMOPHONES • SCRIPTURE • TRIAD
/soʊ/

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WORD	IPA	GRAMMAR	ETYMOLOGY & TEACHING PRESCRIPTION
so	/soʊ/	Adverb / Conjunction	Old English swā. Grammatical marker of degree.
sow	/soʊ/	Verb	Old English sāwan. To scatter seed upon the ground.
sew	/soʊ/	Verb	Old English siwian. Unique /oʊ/ pronunciation of digraph ew.
reap	/ri:p/	Verb	Old English rīpan. Companion verb to sow.

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 2 Solutions:

- sow** (scatter seed).
- sew** (stitch with needle).
- so** (adverb of degree).
- sow** / **so** (proverbial match).

Pedagogical Warning:

Point out to children that sow has a twin word spelled the same but pronounced differently: sow (/sau/ - a female pig). Context tells the meaning and sound!

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Close your eyes and listen: so, sow, sew. Can you hear any difference in pronunciation?
- Which spelling means to scatter wheat or corn in a furrow?
- Why is 'sew' such an unusual word? What sound does 'ew' usually make?

DICTATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- The farmer went out to sow grain in the fertile field.
- Mother taught the little girl how to sew a straight seam.
- The evening air was so cold that the water began to freeze.
- As you sow in springtime, so shall you reap in autumn harvest.