

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class / Grade: _____ Score: _____

LESSON 21. WORDS PRONOUNCED ALIKE

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Phonological Study: Contrast homophones *write* and *right* (/raɪt/). Analyze silent letters *wr-* and *-ight* in literary quotations by William Shakespeare & Alice Cary.

HOMOPHONES /RAIT/

1. Copy the following lines carefully and find two words pronounced alike but spelled differently.

Read each literary quote aloud with clear articulation, then copy neatly on the guideline below:

Think good thoughts; write good words.

— WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

You cannot do wrong and feel right.

— ALICE CARY

Target Homophone Pair (Pronounced alike /raɪt/):

Word 1 (with pen/ink): _____ Word 2 (opposite of wrong): _____

2. Use these words in sentences of your own.

Compose an original, grammatically complete sentence for each homophone:

1. write: _____

2. right: _____

3. Write these lines from dictation.

Listen carefully as your teacher dictates each literary line. Transcribe with correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation:

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

4. Write answers to the following questions:

Demonstrate your understanding of word meanings and orthography:

1. What do you do with pen and ink?

Ans. I _____ with pen and ink.

2. What is the opposite of wrong?

Ans. The opposite of wrong is _____.

3. What would you say when you have learned this lesson?

Ans. I can _____ all the words _____.

PHONICS & SPELLING RULES TO REMEMBER

★ 1. Homophones (/raɪt/)

Homophones sound exactly alike but have different spellings and meanings. **write** (/raɪt/) is a verb (making letters); **right** (/raɪt/) means correct, good, or moral.

★ 2. Silent 'w' in 'wr-'

When **w** comes before **r** at the start of a word (**wr-**), the **w** is completely silent (**write, wrong, wrap, wrist**). Both **write** and **wrong** share this rule!

★ 3. Silent 'gh' in '-ight'

The spelling pattern **-ight** represents the long **i** sound /aɪ/, where **gh** is silent (**right, sight, night**). Notice silent **gh** also appears in **thoughts**!

LESSON 21: WORDS PRONOUNCED ALIKE — MASTER KEY

Homophone Analysis (write vs. right), Silent Letter Study (wr- & -ight) & Science of Reading Guide

Official Solution

1. COMPLETE HOMOPHONE ORTHOGRAPHIC & SEMANTIC MATRIX

write

IPA: /raɪt/ • Webster: wrīte

Part of Speech: Verb (Action of forming letters, words, or texts).
Orthography: Digraph **wr-** (silent **w**) + Split Digraph **i_e** (long **i**).
Etymology: Old English **writan** ("to scratch, score, carve runic letters").
Lesson Context: "Think good thoughts; write good words."

right

IPA: /raɪt/ • Webster: rīght

Part of Speech: Adjective / Adverb / Noun (Morally good, correct, true; not wrong).
Orthography: Vowel Trigraph **-igh** (silent **gh**) represents long **i** (/aɪ/).
Etymology: Old English **riht** ("straight, just, equitable, proper, correct").
Lesson Context: "You cannot do wrong and feel right."

Companion Orthographic Patterns in Lesson: • *wrong* (/rɒŋ/ or /rɔ:ŋ/): Demonstrates identical silent w in initial wr- cluster. • *thoughts* (/θɔ:ts/): Demonstrates silent gh in -ought with diphthong /ɔ:/.

2. MASTER ANSWERS FOR ALL TEXTBOOK EXERCISES

Exercise 1 (Homophone Pair): Two words pronounced alike but spelled differently: **write** and **right** (both pronounced identically as /raɪt/).

Exercise 2 (Exemplary Student Sentences):

- *write*: "I will **write** a thank-you letter to my teacher." (or: "Please write your name neatly.")
- *right*: "Always strive to do what is **right**, even when it is hard." (or: "Turn right at the corner.")

Exercise 3 (Dictation Key & Punctuation Check):

- Line 1: "Think good thoughts; write good words." — WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.
[Check: Semicolon after 'thoughts', period after 'words', capitalized proper noun 'William Shakespeare'].
- Line 2: "You cannot do wrong and feel right." — ALICE CARY.
[Check: Compound word 'cannot', silent w in 'wrong', silent gh in 'right', period after 'right!'].

Exercise 4 (Contextual Discovery Questions Key):

1. What do you do with pen and ink? → **write** (Full answer: "I write with pen and ink.")
2. What is the opposite of wrong? → **right** (Full answer: "The opposite of wrong is right.")
3. What would you say when you have learned this lesson? → **Ans. I can write all the words right.**

[Pedagogical Note: This synthesis sentence ingeniously pairs both homophones: 'write' (verb) and 'right' (adverb meaning correctly)].

HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF HOMOPHONES

In Old English, *writan* was pronounced with an articulated /w/ followed by a trilled /r/ (/wri:tan/), and *riht* contained a distinct voiceless palatal fricative /ç/ (/riçt/). During the Early Modern English period, consonant clusters underwent lenition: initial /w/ dropped before /r/, and the velar/palatal fricative fell silent with compensatory lengthening of vowel *i* (/aɪ/). Thus, historical sound change resulted in homophony, while orthography remained distinct to preserve semantic clarity.

CHARACTER EDUCATION IN CLASSICAL SPELLERS

Wheeler seamlessly combines orthographic mastery with moral philosophy. William Shakespeare's quote connects cognition ("think good thoughts") with expression ("write good words"). Alice Cary's moral aphorism instructs conscience ("cannot do wrong and feel right"). Teaching homophones through inspiring literature elevates spelling from mechanical rote memorization to reflective language artistry.

4. ASSESSMENT RUBRIC (25 POINTS TOTAL)

Task Focus	Instructional Standard & Criteria	Scoring
1. Copywork Precision	Accurate letter formation, clean baseline alignment, and correct spacing on both literary quotes.	5 pts (2.5 pts / quote)
2. Homophone Discovery	Correctly identifying <i>write</i> and <i>right</i> as homophones with shared pronunciation /raɪt/.	4 pts (2 pts / word)
3. Sentence Construction	Composing original, grammatically sound sentences correctly applying <i>write</i> and <i>right</i> in context.	6 pts (3 pts / sentence)
4. Dictation Accuracy	Flawless transcription from oral dictation, including tricky silent letters (wr-, -ight) and punctuation.	6 pts (3 pts / line)
5. Discovery Questions	Full mastery answering Q1 (<i>write</i>), Q2 (<i>right</i>), and Q3 dual homophone sentence completion.	4 pts (1 pt Q1/Q2, 2 pts Q3)