

TENSE HOMOPHONES

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Homophones are words which sound the same but which have different spellings and different meanings. BAWL and BALL are homophones.

Here, I look at homophones in conjunction with past and present tenses. Consider the past tense PLACED and its present tense PLACE. Replacing PLACE with PLAICE (homophones) makes PLACED PLAICE, a meaningful designation (see A. below). Similarly, consider the present tense SURF and its past tense SURFED. Replacing SURF with SERF (homophones) makes SERF SURFED, another meaningful designation (see B. below).

In both A. and B. it is the PRESENT tense which is replaced.

A. past tense is followed by a homophone of the present tense

aided aide	altered altar	bawled 'ball'	breasted Brest (in France)
broke brake	buoyed boy	buried berry	caned Cain
carted kart	caused caws (disturbed rook)	charred cha (burnt tea)	checked cheque/Czech
cheeped 'cheap'	chose chews	coated cote (painted dovecote)	coaxed cokes
counselled council	cued queue	damned dam	deserted dessert
drew drawer	dyed die (as in dice)	earned urn	filed phial
flawed floor	fled flea	franked franc	gauged gage (greengage)
gilded guild (hall)	grazed greys (horses)	handled Handel	heard here
hid Hyde	hosed hoes	laid lei	lauded lord
loaded lode (stone)	locked loch	looted lute	lost loos (help!)
mailed male	marred ma	minced mints	mourned morn
needed knead	noted nowt	pared pear	peddled pedal
placed plaice	prised prize	reviewed revue	righted rite
roamed Rome	roughed ruff	rooted route	saw sea
seized Cs	sensed scents	shook sheikh	sighted site
slighted sleight	sold cell	sourced sauce	staked steak
stole steel	studded study	styled stile	succoured sucker
tamed Thame (town in UK)	taxed tacks	tied Thai	told Tel
used yews/ewes	veiled vale (misty valley)	veined vane	waived wave
weighed whey	wore where?	wrested rest	wrote 'right'

Some of the word pairs in A. above can be reversed to qualify for B. below eg. hid Hyde/Hyde hid etc.

B. past tense is preceded by a homophone of the present tense

beech beached (washed up)	bloc blocked (countries vetoed)	boar bored	bough bowed
brake broke	burro burrowed	Cain caned	canon cannoned (off vicar!)
Cher shared	creek creaked	crews cruised	Cy sighed
Czech checked	Dai died	does dozed	drupe drooped
Ern earned	fair fared	Flo flowed (as she danced)	floe flowed
fowl fouled	frieze froze	gays gazed	greys grazed

Guy'd guided	he'd heeded	Hall hauled	heel healed
heir aired	Hugh hewed	Hyde hid	idol idled
I eyed	jamb jammed	jell gelled	knead needed
laps lapsed	Lear leered	male mailed	Marie married
Mo mowed	Neal/Neil/Neill knelt	not knotted	nowt noted
Ouse (river in UK) oozed	Paul palled	paws paused	Pearl purled
Phil filled	pique peaked	Pole polled	prey prayed
prophet profited	rain reigned	Ray'd raided	rhea reared
roc (mythical bird) rocked	role rolled (different actors)	Ryde rode	sale sailed
saw soared (through the air!)	serf surfed	Shaw shored	sleigh slew (careered about)
stork stalked	tale tailed (useless ending)	tees (golf) teased	Tel told
tern (a bird) turned	Tor toured	troupe trooped	Ty tied
Vere veered	very varied	waist wasted	Wanda wandered
we weed	whale wailed	wretch retched	wright (a craftsman) wrote
Wynn won	Wayne waned		

In both C. and D. it is the PAST tense which is replaced:

C. present tense is followed by a homophone of the past tense

ban band	bore board	char chard (burn the veg.)	claw Claude
cower coward	eat eight	eye Ide	gore gourd
guess guest	hear herd	low load	make maid
miss mist	muster mustard	owe ode	pick Pict
send scent/cent	see scene	see sore	stay staid
take tuck (a rapier)	throw through	weigh Wade	win one

As in the case of A. and B., some of the word pairs in C. above can be reversed to qualify for D. below eg. eat eight/eight eat.

D. present tense is preceded by a homophone of the past tense

blue blow (caused bruising)	bold bowl	chaste chase (he didn't catch her!)	
court catch	crude crew	eight eat	flue fly (in the chimney)
fort fight	herd hear	one win	pride (lions) pry
road ride	rows rise (to applaud)	side sigh (after losing the match)	
war wear			

In E, both the PAST AND PRESENT tenses are replaced:

E. a homophone of the present tense is either preceded, or followed, by a homophone of the past tense

cited site	herd here	sea scene	peke peaked (at dog show)
(sighted sight)	(heard hear)	(see seen)	(peek peeked)

Finally, an example in which the past and present tenses are the same:

red reed
(read read)

US COUNTY NAME TRANSPOSALS

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In the August 2011 *Word Ways*, Darryl Francis examines transposals of US county names. The second set (p217-220) lists transposals of counties combined with the relative two-letter state-name abbreviation, for example:

Chicot AR	thoracic
Bristol MA	Maltisorb
Monroe WI	wine room

Darryl searched for two examples for every state and succeeded in finding 89 out of the possible 100 transposals for county name plus two-letter state abbreviation.

Here are some suggestions for the eleven remaining combinations. Most were found on the Net with the help of the Google search program.

Connecticut

Fairfield CT	idle-traffic	a data communications term (usually two words without the hyphen). 'appropriately random idle-traffic generation.' [linuxdevcenter.com]
New London CT	Clendon Town	Real Estate designation for the business/shopping area of Clendon, a suburb of Auckland, New Zealand. 'Find property for sale in Clendon Town .' [www.rightmove.co]
Windham CT	Mindwatch	among other things, a registered trademark of computer software for 'recording, analyzing, categorizing and displaying behavior. emotions, actions, thoughts and patterns', owned by Mindwatch IP Pty Ltd, Eumundi, Australia. [Net]

Delaware

New Castle DE	Sweet Candle	a variety of carrot. [nvsuk.org.uk]
Sussex DE	Sussexed	staying or living in a place named Sussex (in Canada in quote). 'The PM Sussexed snugly.' [mountainmeanders.blogspot.com] The terms out- Sussexed (cricket) and over- Sussexed are also mentioned on the Net.

Hawaii HI	hihiawai	native name for a kind of swamp fern found in Hawaii. [<i>In Gardens of Hawaii</i> , M.C.Neal, 1965, p12]
Kauai HI	kaihuia	a New Zealand palm tree. '... the nikau palm, a tree which when fully grown, was sometimes called kaihuia .' [<i>Birds of Aotearoa</i> , M.R.Orbell, 2003, p56] Kaihuia Street is in Wellington, NZ, and Kellin Kaihuia Pungatara lives in Auckland, NZ. [Net]
Maui HI	mihiau	a stone with which the moa (bird) was cooked by the Maori people of New Zealand. [<i>The Moa-Hunter Period of Maori Culture</i> , R.Duff, 1977, p307] Mihiau is also a Polynesian personal name, both surname and given name, e.g. Mihiau Tangaroa was mother of Sir Tangaroa Tangaroa, former Cook Islands administrator. [<i>The International Who's Who 2000</i> , Vol 63]

Maryland

Baltimore MD	Morbid Metal	a former Brazilian death metal band. [Encyclopaedia Metallum, Net]
Cecil MD	McClide	Scots surname (var. of McClyde?). listed 12x in US phone books. [www.whitepages.com]

Worcester MD	crowdmeters	measures of a crowds approval, mood, excitement, etc. 'A " crowd meter " shows the mood of the crowd as a player sings.' [Wikipedia, Karaoke Revolution] Sometimes written in solid form, e.g. 'You won't go down on the crowdmeter if you do this.' [www.rockband.com]
New Hampshire		
Carroll NH	Roll Ranch	a vineyard in the Ojai Valley, Californis, US. [<i>Wine & Spirits</i> , Vol 19, 2000]
Cheshire NH	Sheri Hench	a resident of Ohio, US. [fullnamedirectory.com]
Grafton NH	front hang	in gymnastics, to perform the basic hang from the rings. [<i>Olympic Gymnastics for Men & Women</i> , B. Taylor, 1972, p127]
	Fangthorn	a warrior in the online role-playing game 'World of Warcraft'. [Net]
	Thornfang	a hill in the same game. [Net]
Rhode Island		
Newport RI	pro-winter	preferring cold weather to hot. 'But Willy was confident the whole pro-winter hoo-ha really just meant Max hated Florida.' [<i>Double Fault</i> , L. Shriver, 2007, p21]
	port-winer	a deep-red birthmark. ' "A proper port-winer ", said the coroner . "The afterglow is unmistakable." ' [<i>The Penguin Book of Irish Comic Writing</i> , 1996, p73]
West Virginia		
Monroe WV	overmown	of a lawn, meadow, etc., mown excessively. 'The August lawn is overmown ; it's tan, almost, instead of green.' [<i>From Mt. San Angelo</i> , W. Smart, 1984, p201]
Wyoming		
Albany WY	yawnably	boringly, the Net has phrases like 'yawnably familiar', yawnably predictable', 'yawnably easy'. 'Will Windows on an XT or compatible be yawnably slow and tedious?' [<i>Opening Windows</i> , B.O'Brien, 1987]
Sheridan WY	haywinders	an old occupation? Perhaps people who bound hay (with twine) into bales. 'Her Father was a Henry Nicholls who's [sic] job was given as Haywinder .' [www.genesreunited.com] Haywinder Chalil is listed in a Michigan, US, phone book. [www.whitepages.com]
Uinta WY	Hardys Wine Unitway	very popular Down Under! [Net] a limited company once based in London,UK, now dissolved. [bizzy.co.uk]