HOMOPHONIC SPOONERISMS

SUSAN THORPE
Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, England
thorpeds@hotmail.com

SPOONERISMS occur when the initial letters of a 2-word phrase are swapped to form a new phrase:
  eg. SEND MAIL - MEND SAIL
HOMOPHONES sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings:
  eg. WHICH and WITCH
‘HOMOPHONIC SPOONERISMS’ combines the two when converting one 2-word phrase into another 2-word phrase:

LETTER BOX - BETTER LOCKS
SHE TAKES - TEE SHAKES (earthquake on golf course)
ROUND HOLES - HOUND ROLLS
PHONE CALLS - CONE FALLS
SHE’S HIGH - HE’S SHY
LEAD SHOT - SHED LOT
LOCH NESS - KNOCK LESS
FLEA BITE - BEE FLIGHT
CHALET BOOZE - BALLET SHOES
LEG BONE - BEG LOAN
RIGHT FORK - FIGHT RORKE
CHARLES CAIN - CARL’S CHAIN
WASTE TIP - TASTE WHIP
WOOD SHED - SHOULD WED
GOLD COAST - COLD GHOST
TALL STOREY - STALL TORY
BALD HEAD - HAULED BED
LOST TIME - TOSSED LIME
RED SHOES - SHED RUSE
SHORT CUT - COURT SHUT
FOUR WAYS - WAR PHASE
LAND SITE - SAND LIGHT
MOST RIDDLES - ROAST MIDDLES
LONG ROBE - WRONG LOBE
COTTON WRAP - ROTTEN CAP
LENS COVER - KEN’S LOVER
PLANES LAND - LANES PLANNED
NIGHT LIFE - LIGHT (weight) KNIFE
BED DRAWER - DREAD BOAR
BOAT RACE - WROTE ‘BASE’
LUNCH PILL - PUNCH LIL
HIGH RATE - WRY HATE
SHOE TIPS - TWO SHIPS
LAUGHING STOCK - STAFFING LOCH
SKITTLE LANE - LITTLE SKEIN
LUNCH BOX - BUNCH LOCKS (hair)
SUN SHINES - SHUN SIGNS
CROW’S NEST - NOSE CREST
CHEWS PEAR - POOH’S CHAIR
HIGH RISE - WRY ‘HI’S
HOLD TIGHT - TOLD HEIGHT
SIX FORTY (time) - FIX SORTIE
LOCH NESS - KNOCK LESS
WATER DITCH - DAUGHTER WITCH
KNIT HAT - HIT GNAT
LOCKS DOOR - DOCK’S LAW
TWO HOOTS - WHO TOOTS?
LOST TOMB - TOSSED LOOM
KILLS JOY - JILL’S COY
SECOND BALL - BECKONED SAUL
RIGHT LANE - LIGHT RAIN
SOFT LIGHT - LOFT SITE
LIGHT WANES - WHITE LANES
WRONG LANE - LONG REIGN / REIN
MILD DAY - DIALLED MAY
SLEIGH RIDES - RAY SLIDES
LOUD CRY - CROWD LIE
BAD HEAD - HAD BED
SWEET PIGS - PETE SWIGS
JOHN WAYNE - ONE JANE
LEAVES HOME - HEAVES LOAM
CAT MEWS - MATT QUEUES
CARE HOME - HAIR COMB
CLIVES HERE - HIVE’S CLEAR
RUM DO - DUMB ROO
TIGHT WIRE - WHITE TYRE
DALE’S MEAL - MAIL’S DEAL
ROLL DOUGH - DOLE ROW (queue)
FLOOR SHOW - SHORE FLOW
SEIZED TIMON - TEASED SIMON
GNAWED BED - BORED NED
THROW GUM - GROW THUMB
MAKE STEEL - STEAK MEAL
CAST VOTE - VAST COAT
SLENDER GAL - GLENSA SAL
NICKS STOCK - STICKS KNOCK
REST TIME - TEST RHYME
WHITE SAILS - SIGHT WHALES
PECK CHEEK - CHECK PEKE
HALL BANNED - BALL HAND
FIRST CALL - CURSED FALL
‘BOO’ SHOCKS - SHOE BOX
TEA BREW - BRIE TOO
LOST TOMB - TOSS LOOM
WEAR SHAWL - SHARE WALL
BEE’S HONEY - HE’S BUNNY
SNAP JAWS - JAP SNORES
RED BOWL - BED ROLL
CASTLE HOWARD (in UK) - HASSLE COWARD
MOWS GREEN - GROWS MEAN
HOLD TIGHT - TOLD HEIGHT
KIND MAN - MIND CAN (tin)
KEN BOUGHT - BEN CAUGHT
THRIFTY NED - NIFTY THREAD

In the above examples the 2 phrases do NOT have a meaningful relationship

These 2 pairs of phrases are meaningfully linked

CHEW FOOD - FEW CHEWED
MANNED BAR - BANNED MA
TRY BIKE - BUY TRIKE
NORLEY SHOT - SURELY NOT!
These 2 pairs of phrases read on, one from the other

WHORE SAID - “SORE HEAD!“

BEN CRIED - “KEN (means to take note of) BRIDE”

“DAFT LAD” - LAUGHED DAD

BALD MEN - MAULED BEN

KNAVE SAID - “SAVE NED”

PORTER WIPES - WATER PIPES