

# homophones and near homophones

The ball he **threw** went **through** the window!



### Focus

- A Look at these picture clues.  
Write a matching key word for each in your book.



1 \_\_\_\_\_



2 \_\_\_\_\_



3 \_\_\_\_\_



4 \_\_\_\_\_



5 \_\_\_\_\_



6 \_\_\_\_\_

- B Write a homophone for each of these words.

- |           |          |              |          |
|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|
| 1 herd    | 2 led    | 3 guest      | 4 cereal |
| 5 farther | 6 symbol | 7 lightening | 8 queue  |

### Key Words

break / brake  
threw / through  
source / sauce  
site / sight  
allowed / aloud  
waste / waist  
peace / piece

advise / advice  
devise / device  
practise / practice  
licence / licence

affect / effect  
ascent / assent  
compliment / complement

### Extra

Some pairs of words are not actually homophones although they sound very similar and can cause confusion.

bought brought

I **bought** some apples at the shop.

I **brought** them home with me.



Remember, **homophones** are words that sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings.

- A Write sentences to show that you know the difference between these often confused words.

- |                |               |                        |
|----------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 1 are our      | 2 who's whose | 3 quite quiet          |
| 4 choose chose | 5 loose lose  | 6 conscience conscious |

- B These homophones cause more problems than most.  
Write one sentence for each set that includes each of the three words.

- |              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 to too two | 2 there their they're |
|--------------|-----------------------|

### Extension

There is a small group of words that cause confusion, though there is a fairly easy way to remember how to spell them correctly.

advise advice devise device practise practice license licence

The words advise, devise, practise and license are all verbs, so can have **ing** or **ed** added, whereas advice, device, practice and licence are nouns, so can't have the **ing** or **ed** suffix added.

We have been **devising** a **device** to stop squirrels eating the bird food.

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| ↑             | ↑             |
| verb          | noun          |
| (action word) | (naming word) |

- A Write a sentence for each of these words.

- |           |              |          |           |            |
|-----------|--------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 licence | 2 practising | 3 advice | 4 devised | 5 practice |
|-----------|--------------|----------|-----------|------------|

- B Copy these words and write the definition.

- |              |              |             |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1 complement | 2 compliment | 3 eliminate |
| 4 illuminate | 5 affect     | 6 effect    |



Use a dictionary to help you.