

What do you mean?

Challenge 2

1. Words often have more than one meaning.
 e.g. *Bright* can mean three different things: *giving a strong light*, *clever*, or *cheerful*.

Can you think of two separate meanings for each of these words?
 You can look them up in your *Oxford School Dictionary*.

- a) digit (noun)
- b) demonstrate (verb)
- c) document (noun)
- d) dream (noun)
- e) disguise (verb)

2. Words that are spelled the same but which have completely different meanings are called **homographs**.
 e.g. *cricket* means both a *sport* and an *insect*.
 Some homographs are pronounced differently.
 e.g. *bow* (rhyming with 'cow') meaning 'to bend down' and *bow* (rhyming with 'low') which is used in archery.

Which of the following homographs are being described below?

MEANING	HOMOGRAPH
a) • a place where teaching is done • a shoal of fish or whales
b) • a large box-shaped basket with a lid • to hinder
c) • a place where a bird sits or rests • an edible freshwater fish
d) • a young cow, whale, or seal • the fleshy back part of the leg below the knee
e) • a reddish-brown metal used to make wire and coins • a slang word for a policeman

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