



Challenge yourself and read the sentences aloud.

Check the pronunciation of each underlined word – make sure you are looking at the correct part of speech – verb, noun or adjective – and meaning!

The bandage was wound(verb) around the wound(noun).

The farm was used to produce(verb) produce(noun).

The rubbish dump was so full that it had to refuse(verb) more refuse(noun).

We must polish(verb) the Polish(adjective) furniture.

He could lead(verb) if he would get the lead(noun) out.

The soldier decided to desert(verb) his dessert(noun) in the desert(noun).

Since there is no time like the present(noun), he thought it was time to present(verb) the present(noun).

A bass(noun, a fish) was painted on the head of the bass(adjective) drum

When shot at, the dove(noun) dove(verb) into the bushes.

I did not object(verb) to the object(noun).

The insurance was invalid(adjective) for the invalid(noun).

There was a row(noun, an argument) among the oarsmen about how to row(verb, using oars).

They were too close(adjective) to the door to close(verb) it.

The buck does(verb) funny things when the does(noun, female deer) are present.

A seamstress and a sewer(noun, someone who sews) fell down into a sewer(noun) line.

To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow(noun, female pig) to sow(verb).

The wind(noun) was too strong to wind(verb) the sail

After a number(noun) of injections my jaw got number(adjective).

Upon seeing the tear(noun, a rip) in the painting I shed a tear(noun, water from your eyes).

I had to subject(verb) the subject(noun) to a series of tests

How can I intimate(verb) this to my most intimate(adjective) friend?



And now think about these questions!

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France (Surprise!). Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

Quicksand works slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, two geese. So one moose, two meese? Doesn't it seem crazy that you Can make amends but not one amend. If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? Is it an odd, or an end?

If teachers taught, why don't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up and down at the same time and, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

Why do you drive on a parkway and park on a driveway. English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And while we're at it, why doesn't "Buick" rhyme with "quick"?