

ANSWERS**Homographic Puns**

A **pun** is a humorous play on words where the word's meaning, or the way the word sounds, is used to create a joke. A **homographic pun** uses a word that has two different meanings to make a joke.

Example: The experienced carpenter really nailed it, but the new guy **screwed** everything up.

- Word used for the pun: **screwed**
- First meaning of word: **screw used with screwdrivers**
- Second meaning of word: **messed up**
- What makes it a pun? **Using "carpenter," "nailed it," and "screwed everything up" helps show that the new guy messed up the construction.**

Directions: Read the pun and analyze the meaning. Then, record the information below.

1. A cross-eyed teacher couldn't control his pupils.

A. Word used for the pun: **pupils**

B. First meaning: **students**

C. Second meaning: **part of an eye**

D. What makes it a pun? **The sentence is about unruly students, but it relates both of the meanings of a pupil to the teacher's eyes.**

2. I used to be afraid of hurdles, but I got over it.

A. Word used for the pun: **hurdles**

B. First meaning: **what you jump over during a track race**

C. Second meaning: **an obstacle in life**

D. What makes it a pun? **Both meanings of "hurdle" are used in this sentence. The person got over the fear, and people go over hurdles when they run the race.**

3. My friend made a joke about a TV controller. It wasn't remotely funny.

A. Word used for the pun: **remotely**

B. First meaning: **not even a little bit**

C. Second meaning: **a remote used to change the channels on the tv**

D. What makes it a pun? **The sentence connects the remote for the tv with the word "remotely" because the joke was not even a little bit funny.**

Your turn! Write a homographic pun. Circle your word used for the pun.

Answers will vary.

