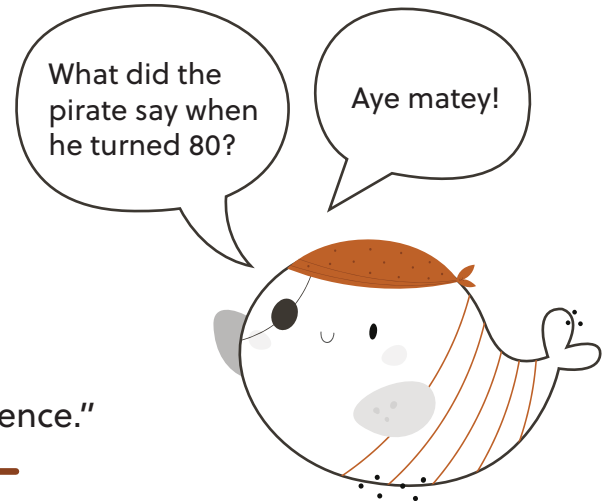


Play on Words

Sometimes writers use a play on words to create a deeper meaning!

Example: I wish I could be a doctor, but I don't have the patients.

In this example, the author is using a play on words by swapping in the homophone "patients" for "patience."



Directions: Underline the word or phrase that has a deeper meaning than its literal interpretation. Then explain what is unique about this word or phrase. Be sure to include its meaning!

1. When our family went to the water park during our vacation we had some serious fun!

Serious and fun are opposite words. In this sentence, they are used to indicate that the family had a lot of fun.

2. Who cleaned the house and maid the bed?

The homophone made matches the word maid. A maid is a household worker whose responsibilities include cleaning and other domestic tasks (like making beds!).

3. We rowed the boat ride at the amusement park.

The homophone rode matches the word rowed. To row is to use a motion to move a boat, but in this context they are likely riding, not rowing.

4. The library books were read, white, and blue.

This sentence swaps in the word read for red. It's a play on words because the context is library books, not the American flag (which is red, white, and blue).

5. Make sure you don't lose that paper because it is the original copy.

"Original copy" is an oxymoron because original and copy are contradictory words. When something is original, there is no duplicate!