

What's so Punny?

Definitions

Pun: A joke that uses a homonym or homophones for its humor. *Ex: The broom swept the nation away.*

Homonym: Two or more words that have the same spelling and different meanings.

Homophone: Two or more words that have the same pronunciation but different meanings or spellings.

Read each pun below. Then decide if the pun uses a homonym or a homophone, underline it, and explain the pun.

Example: The broom swept the nation away.

The word swept can mean to sweep something up (like dirt), swept can also mean to win something. The word swept is a homonym because both meanings use the same spelling.

1. Every calendar's days are numbered.

2. When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.

3. Being struck by lightning is really a shocking experience!

4. Why was six afraid of seven? Because seven ate nine.

5. Where do polar bears vote? The North Poll.
