Homophones

Generalization  A homophone is a word that sounds exactly like another word but has a different spelling and meaning: week, weak.

Word Sort  Sort the list words by words you know how to spell and words you are learning to spell. Write every word.

words I know how to spell  words I’m learning how to spell
1. __________________ 9. __________________
2. __________________ 10. __________________
3. __________________ 11. __________________
4. __________________ 12. __________________
5. __________________ 13. __________________
6. __________________ 14. __________________
7. __________________ 15. __________________
8. __________________

Spelling Words
1. to
2. too
3. two
4. week
5. weak
6. road
7. rode
8. stair
9. stare
10. bear
11. bare
12. write
13. right
14. new
15. knew

Home Activity  Your child is learning to spell and distinguish between homophones: words having the same pronunciation but different spellings and meanings. To practice at home, use the list words in sentences and have your child write the words.

Homophones DVD•299
I Love Saturdays y domingos
A little girl spends Saturdays with Grandma and Grandpa, her father’s parents. She spends Sundays, or domingos, with Abuelita and Abuelito, her mother’s parents. Abuelita and Abuelito are Mexican. She has good times with both sets of grandparents, enjoying special treats like a trip to the circus and a birthday party. She speaks Spanish with her Mexican grandparents and English with her other grandparents.

Activity
¿Como se dice en español? Ask parents or grandparents what languages they speak. Choose words from the story to learn in another language. You might want to learn words for colors, numbers, and animals, as the little girl does in the story. Share your new language skills with a partner.

Comprehension Skill
Main Idea and Details
The topic is what a piece of writing is about. The main idea is the most important idea about the topic. Details are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Activity
What Is My Main Idea? Tell riddles with a family member. First, think of a place in your home or a recent family event, but do not reveal it to the other person. When it is your turn to tell clues about your main idea, begin with a detail that might be true of many places or events, such as This event happened in our kitchen. Continue with details until the other person guesses correctly.
Lesson Vocabulary

Words to Know
Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *I Love Saturdays y domingos*. Practice using these words.

Vocabulary Words
- **bouquet** bunch of flowers
- **circus** traveling show of acrobats, clowns, and wild animals
- **difficult** hard to do or understand
- **nibbling** eating with quick, small bites
- **pier** walk or dock built out over water
- **soars** flies at a great height
- **swallow** to take something into the stomach through the throat

Conventions

Comparative and Superlative Adjectives
An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun. It answers the questions *what kind? which one? and how many?*

A **comparative adjective** usually ends in *-er*. It states that one thing is “more _______” than another. A **superlative adjective** usually ends in *-est*. It states that one thing is “the most _______ of all.”

Before adding *-er* or *-est*, you may have to change a final *y* to an *i*, or double a final consonant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Comparative Adjective</th>
<th>Superlative Adjective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>happy</td>
<td>happier</td>
<td>happiest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>red</td>
<td>redder</td>
<td>reddest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activity

**More and Most** Play a game with a partner. Take a set of 15–20 blank cards and write one adjective on each card. Mix up the cards and place them facedown. Turn over the top card. The first player to write the correct comparative and superlative forms of the adjective wins 2 points.
Main Idea and Details

• The topic is what a piece of writing is about.
• The main idea is the most important idea about the topic.
• Details are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Directions  Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Snacks can be good for you! A healthy snack is easy to make from things in the kitchen. Sometimes I just mix up raisins and peanuts to make my own trail mix. I like to add granola or fruit to a cup of yogurt. My favorite snack is a piece of cheese on a cracker.

Yesterday, I made my own happy face snack. I got a cup of applesauce, cinnamon, some raisins, and a rice cake. I mixed a little cinnamon into the applesauce. Then I spread it on the rice cake and used the raisins to make a smiley face. It looked cute and tasted delicious!

1. What is the topic of this piece of writing?
   making healthy snacks

2. What is the main idea in the first paragraph?
   A healthy snack is easy to make from things in the kitchen.

3. What is a detail that tells about the main idea?
   Possible answers: You can make trail mix; you can add fruit or granola to yogurt.

4. What is the main idea in the second paragraph?
   how to make a happy face snack

5. What is a detail that tells about the main idea?
   Possible answers: Get the ingredients; spread the applesauce on the rice cake; make a smiley face with raisins.

Home Activity  Your child identified main ideas and details in a passage. Ask your child to tell you a story about something that happened in school today. Together, write a sentence that tells the main idea. Then ask your child to tell several details about the main idea.

DVD•302 Comprehension
Compare and Contrast

- When you compare and contrast two or more things, you tell how they are alike and different.
- Some clue words that signal that things might be the same are like, same, both, also, and as well as.
- Some clue words that signal differences are but, however, different, and instead of.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Three languages are spoken most in the world. They are Chinese, English, and Spanish. Almost one billion people in the world speak Chinese. That is more than any other language. The number of people who speak English and Spanish are almost the same. When you write English and Spanish, you use the same letters. Some of the sounds are different, however.

When you write Chinese, you use symbols. Some of the symbols mean sounds. Some of the symbols mean words. And some of the symbols mean whole ideas.

It’s easier to learn a language when people in your family speak it. Then you hear it all the time. What languages do the people in your family speak?

1. Which languages are being compared?

   **English, Spanish, and Chinese are being compared.**

2. Which language uses symbols?

   **Chinese uses symbols.**

3. Which languages use the same letters?

   **Spanish and English use the same letters.**

4. What three things do Chinese symbols stand for?

   **Chinese symbols stand for sounds, words, and ideas.**

5. Which language do you think would be hardest to learn? Why?

   **Possible response: Chinese, because you would have to learn all the symbols for everything instead of just how to spell words**

Home Activity Your child learned about telling how two or more things are alike and different. Ask your child to make two drawings of a favorite family event. Have him or her tell you what is alike and different about the drawings.
Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

Directions Add a comparative or superlative adjective to complete each sentence. Use a form of an adjective from the box or an adjective of your own. Make any necessary spelling changes. Write the new sentence. **Possible answers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>tasty</th>
<th>nice</th>
<th>bright</th>
<th>cute</th>
<th>large</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. The kite was the _____ kite in the sky.  
**The kite was the brightest kite in the sky.**

2. Abuelita’s *huevos rancheros* is the _____ breakfast of all.  
**Abuelita’s *huevos rancheros* is the tastiest breakfast of all.**

3. The circus elephant is _____ than the tiger.  
**The circus elephant is larger than the tiger.**

4. The colorful balloons were the _____ surprise in the world.  
**The colorful balloons were the nicest surprise in the world.**

5. Is Grandma’s tabby cat _____ than Abuelita’s dog?  
**Is Grandma’s tabby cat cuter than Abuelita’s dog?**

Directions Write two sentences comparing two or more pets or other animals. Use at least two adjectives that compare. Underline the adjectives. **Possible answer:**

*My friend’s dog is the biggest dog I have ever seen. It is bigger than my dog.*

**School/Home**

**Home Activity** Your child learned how to use adjectives that compare in writing. Have your child write a note to a friend or family member that includes one or more adjectives that compare.
Syllable Pattern CV/VC

Directions Draw a / mark to correctly divide each word into syllables. Write the syllables on the lines. (Example: *di/ary*).

1. create ____ cre/ate____
2. giant ____ gi/ant____
3. piano ____ pi/a/no____
4. realize ____ re/al/ize____
5. pioneer ____ pi/o/neer____
6. violin ____ vi/o/lin____
7. riot ____ ri/ot____
8. Indian ____ In/di/an____

Directions Each sentence contains an underlined word. Divide the word into syllables correctly. Write the syllables on the line, with a / mark between them.

9. The block castle lay in ____ ru/ins____ on the playroom floor.
10. Cats must have meat in their ____ di/e.t____ in order to survive.
11. Mr. Mills reminded the students to study for the ____ sci/ence____ test.
12. The team played baseball in a small minor league ____ sta/di/um____ stadium.

Home Activity Your child divided CV/VC words correctly into syllables. Read an article about Mexican culture with your child. Point to words that have two vowels together that have different sounds. Have your child pronounce them correctly.
Homophones

Riddle  Read a clue and write the list word in the boxes. The answer to the riddle will be in the shaded boxes.

What word does everyone say wrong?

1. seven days
2. large animal
3. also
4. understood
5. not wrong

Word Scramble  Rearrange the letters to form a list word.

6. tow
7. tears
8. wake

Rhyming  Write the missing list word. It will rhyme with the underlined word.

9. I think you’ll need to use a __new__ screw.
10. He carried the __load__ down the winding __road__.
11. Be sure to __write__ your name on your kite.
12. Your pleasant __stare__ is easy to __bare__.
13. Will we have time to go to the zoo __too__?
14. We __knew__ a few of the players.

Home Activity  Your child has been learning to spell homophones. Help your child make a list of homophones, including some that are not on this page.

Spelling Words

to
too
two
week
weak
road
rode
stair
stare
bear
bare
write
right
new
knew
Main Idea and Details

- The **topic** is what a piece of writing is about.
- The **main idea** is the most important idea about the topic.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then fill in the graphic organizer below.

Saturday morning is my favorite part of the weekend. First of all, I can sleep in because there’s no school. Sometimes I just lie in bed and daydream. Then, if the weather is nice, I get dressed and take my dog Pounce for a walk. Sometimes my big brother takes us to the dog park so that Pounce can play with the other dogs. On days when it’s cold or rainy outside, I snuggle into my fuzzy blue robe and watch cartoons. When my mom gets up, she and I make blueberry pancakes with whipped cream.

1. **Main Idea**
   - Saturday morning is my favorite part of the weekend.

2. **Detail**
   - I can sleep in.

3. **Detail**
   - I can walk the dog.

4. **Detail**
   - I can watch cartoons.

5. **Detail**
   - Mom and I make blueberry pancakes.

**Home Activity** Your child identified main ideas and details in a passage. Ask your child to tell you about his or her favorite part of the week. Together, write a sentence that tells the main idea. Then ask your child to tell several details about the main idea.
Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

Directions Underline the adjective that compares in each sentence.

1. My grandma’s house is closer than your grandma’s house.
2. My grandpa is older than my grandma.
3. Dan’s grandpa is the youngest grandpa of all.
4. I play the trickiest card game with my grandma.
5. Ana’s grandpa is smarter than anyone.

Directions Choose the adjective in ( ) that correctly completes each sentence. Write the adjective on the line.

6. Her grandparents have (stranger, strangest) hobbies than mine do. __________ stranger
7. Grandpa had the (healthier, healthiest) year ever. __________ healthiest
8. Those old pictures of Grandma are the (cuter, cutest) of all. __________ cutest
9. Grandma wore (fancier, fanciest) hats back then. __________ fancier
10. Grandpa had a (happier, happiest) birthday this year than last year. __________ happier
11. Grandpa tells the (funnier, funniest) jokes in the world. __________ funniest
12. My grandparents give the (finer, finest) gifts of all. __________ finest

Home Activity Your child reviewed adjectives that compare. While listening to music with your child, discuss what you like and dislike. Have your child name some adjectives that compare used in the discussion.