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## Homophones

GERNSBACHER, M. A., & FAUST, M. (1991). The mechanism of suppression: A component of general comprehension skill. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 17, 245-262. [[View PDF](#)]

1. She arranged the rose. COLUMNS  
She arranged the flowers. COLUMNS
2. She broke the yoke. EGG  
She broke the harness. EGG
3. He examined the timbre. WOOD  
He examined the vibration. WOOD
4. He just stared at the kernel. SERGEANT  
He just stared at the seed. SERGEANT
5. She looked up at the fur. TREE  
She looked up at the stole. TREE
6. He measured the frequency in hertz. PAIN  
He measured the frequency in cycles. PAIN
7. She had never been taut. SCHOOL  
She had never been rigid. SCHOOL
8. He wrote the pros. POETRY  
He wrote the officials. POETRY
9. She burned the stake. BEEF  
She burned the pillar. BEEF
10. He mended his sole. SPIRIT  
He mended his shoe. SPIRIT
11. He put away the sax. GROCERY  
He put away the trumpet. GROCERY
12. She was considered too vain. BLOOD  
She was considered too arrogant. BLOOD
13. She wasn't sure of the sighs. LARGE  
She wasn't sure of the moans. LARGE

14. She just loved suites. CANDY  
She just loved lodges. CANDY
15. He changed the tense. CAMP  
He changed the verb. CAMP
16. He prepared the tee. POT  
He prepared the racket. POT
17. She liked his mettle. IRON  
She liked his courage. IRON
18. He was a miner. YOUTH  
He was a logger. YOUTH
19. She picked up the poll. STICK  
She picked up the survey. STICK
20. She cut up the pair. FRUIT  
She cut up the group. FRUIT
21. He overestimated the prophet. GAIN  
He overestimated the wiseman. GAIN
22. He walked toward the creak. STREAM  
He walked toward the noise. STREAM
23. He liked the bazaar. WEIRD  
He liked the market. WEIRD
24. He handled the doe. BREAD  
He handled the calf. BREAD
25. She felt the rein. DROPS  
She felt the leash. DROPS
26. She knew about the berth. BABY  
She knew about the distance. BABY
27. She dreamed about the bridle. GROOM  
She dreamed about the saddle. GROOM
28. She took a picture of the beech. SAND  
She took a picture of the elm. SAND
29. She held the role. BUTTER  
She held the position. BUTTER

30. He lost his hare. BALD  
He lost his collie. BALD
31. She almost ruined the meet. FOOD  
She almost ruined the contest. FOOD
32. She walked forth. THIRD  
She walked forward. THIRD
33. She didn't like the ant. UNCLE  
She didn't like the bug. UNCLE
34. He ruined the carrel. SONG  
He ruined the booth. SONG
35. He practiced the chute. GUN  
He practiced the jump. GUN
36. He had lots of patients. CALM  
He had lots of students. CALM
37. He looked ahead. BODY  
He looked to the side. BODY
38. She was hurt by the long clause. SCRATCH  
She was hurt by the long contract. SCRATCH
39. She was a real deer. NICE  
She was a real horse. NICE
40. He put up the bail. COTTON  
He put up the ransom. COTTON
41. She really liked the fare. CARNIVAL  
She really liked the price. CARNIVAL
42. He hit a fowl. BALL  
He hit a chicken. BALL
43. He fixed his gait. FENCE  
He fixed his stride. FENCE
44. He grabbed the heroine. DRUG  
He grabbed the hero. DRUG
45. She was attracted to the mail. MAN  
She was attracted to the telephone. MAN
46. He couldn't get over the pane. HURT  
He couldn't get over the window. HURT

47. He went down to see the seller. BASEMENT  
He went down to see the buyer. BASEMENT
48. She couldn't identify the cent. SMELL  
She couldn't identify the check. SMELL
49. He took a different root. PATH  
He took a different plant. PATH
50. She measured the quartz. GALLONS  
She measured the topaz. GALLONS
51. She began to prey. CHURCH  
She began to attack. CHURCH
52. She stood by her peer. DOCK  
She stood by her roommate. DOCK
53. He was blinded by the son. SHINE  
He was blinded by the father. SHINE
54. He held the last cord. MUSIC  
He held the last stack. MUSIC
55. He aimlessly walked into the knight. DARK  
He aimlessly walked into the king. DARK
56. He was worried about his lumbar. WOOD  
He was worried about his spine. WOOD
57. She worked hard for all of the weak. DAY  
She worked hard for all of he poor. DAY
58. She was overcome by all the boos. ALCOHOL  
She was overcome by all the applause. ALCOHOL
59. She wished she had a new pair of genes. PANTS  
She wished she had a new pair of parents. PANTS
60. He couldn't help noticing the woman's feat. HANDS  
He couldn't help noticing the woman's accomplishment. HANDS
61. She was embarrassed by the size of her waste. STOMACH  
She was embarrassed by the size of her garbage. STOMACH
62. She looked forward to the chants. OPPORTUNITY  
She looked forward to the songs. OPPORTUNITY
63. She was disturbed by the heir. WIND  
She was disturbed by the grandson. WIND

64. He had never experienced such an unusual tail. STORY  
He had never experienced such an unusual neck. STORY
65. She tried to get over all the stares. STEPS  
She tried to get over all the jeers. STEPS
66. He couldn't believe it so he went to sea. LOOK  
He couldn't believe it so he went to Europe. LOOK
67. She was completely unaffected by the whine. BEER  
She was completely unaffected by the complaint. BEER
68. He used the hoes. WATER  
He used the spades. WATER
69. She was proud of what she had sown. THREAD  
She was proud of what she had planted. THREAD
70. She read in the paper about the huge sail. STORE  
She read in the paper about the huge mast. STORE
71. He was hampered by the abnormal wait. POUNDS  
He was hampered by the abnormal delay. POUNDS
72. He knew his lawn would soon be due. WET  
He knew his lawn would soon be ready. WET
73. She realized her screams weren't aloud. PERMITTED  
She realized her screams weren't real. PERMITTED
74. He didn't take the fairy. SHIP  
He didn't take the fortune teller. SHIP
75. She said the last car was leased. MOST  
She said the last car was rented. MOST
76. They met in the great, big haul. AUDITORIUM  
They met in the great, big raid. AUDITORIUM
77. He begged at the table for a bigger peace. SLICE  
He begged at the table for a bigger treaty. SLICE
78. He was definitely awed. ECCENTRIC  
He was definitely impressed. ECCENTRIC
79. She looked for the whole. OPENING  
She looked for the sections. OPENING
80. She was intrigued at his presence. GIFTS  
She was intrigued at his poise. GIFTS

# *FILLERS*

1. He didn't play with one axe. HATCHET
2. She said the musical group was banned. DISALLOWED
3. He said the unfertile land was owned by a baron. LORD
4. He cursed the dam. RIVER
5. He said the fish was discovered by a Finn. FINLAND
6. He was very frank about the plan. OPEN
7. She looked for the colorless pail. BUCKET
8. He walked back and forth nervously looking for paste. PACED
9. He was opposed to the verses. AGAINST
10. He said his heel was better. HEALED
11. She wanted the bug to flee. LEAVE
12. She wanted to get hired. EMPLOYED
13. At the mountain top he tried not to peek. LOOK
14. She examined the dog's feet when she stopped. PAWS
15. He couldn't stand the bear. TOLERATE
16. He counted up some. ADD
17. She was in the choir wearing coral. SING
18. She wondered about her guest. SPECULATED
19. She stood very still in front of her hero. IDLE
20. She tied the ribbon for her boyfriend. BEAU
21. He boldly climbed the mountain. BOULDER
22. He flew even though he had the flu. SICK
23. She took out a loan all alone. BORROW
24. She knew it was new. ORIGINAL

25. He overthrew the throne. KING
26. She heard the sound of the herd. LIVESTOCK
27. He wanted to dig out the oar. BOAT
28. He lost his hair and bawled. CRIED
29. He was engaged in a duel. FIGHT
30. He wanted to get the rays. SUNLIGHT
31. She stepped on the brake. STOP
32. He hated the cast. LEG
33. He said the homework was too coarse. ROUGH
34. He posted the note with a tack. SHARP
35. He knew a bore. UNINTERESTING
36. He got knotted up in the wave. TIED
37. She was unaware of the steal. ROB
38. She fought to swim. POOL
39. He was bred to make only the freshest loaves. BAKE
40. He said it hadn't been billed. PAYMENT
41. She didn't kneaded the dough. FLOUR
42. He knew the bad. AWFUL
43. He caught the fly ball. OUT
44. She hobbled to the bay. OCEAN
45. She took apart the chain. LINK
46. He painted the portrait. CANVAS
47. He dined at the capitol. BUILDING
48. She hated doing the clothes. LAUNDRY
49. She required the city council. GOVERNMENT

50. He realized his fate. DESTINY
51. He said that it was the fine. PENALTY
52. He heated the grill. COOK
53. He pitched the hay. FORK
54. She quickly became very hoarse. THROAT
55. She hated the litter. PUPPIES
56. She rehearsed the wedding. MARRY
57. She swept off the mat. BROOM
58. He wanted to return to the pact. AGREEMENT
59. He framed the prince. ROYALTY
60. She made quite a scene. DISTURBANCE
61. She said the eagle soared. SKY
62. She watched his sword. WEAPON
63. She idealized the party. FUN
64. He felt the block. TACKLE
65. He looked at the pen. PENCIL
66. He shopped for staples. FASTENERS
67. She was mysterious about the jam. JELLY
68. He lowered the top. SPIN
69. He watched it hatch. EGG
70. He was sad about the tear. RIP
71. He passed the trunk. SUITCASE
72. He shot the bass. FISH
73. She said it was too cold for the chili. SPICY
74. He kneeled to fix the duct. SQUATTED



75. She didn't make enough money to get an urn. EARN

76. She said the light rain was missed. MIST

77. He turned red when he blew. AIR

78. He didn't knot. TIE

79. He complained about the heat. TRACK

80. He came in last. LOSE

## *PRACTICE:*

He begged to get more colas. COKES

She ate the berry. GRAVE

He admired the prints. PRINCESS

He saw the plane. PRAIRIE

He didn't hear her pleas. THANK YOU

She said the book had been read. BLUE

He wished the car had been towed. FROG

She thought that she had won. TWO

He knew better than to stare. STEP