

## What is the Difference Between

### Homonyms, Homophones and Homographs? (Part 1)

*Well, it's all Greek to me! No, I mean it. If you want to understand the difference between these three words in English, a good way to start is to look at their Greek roots.*

## **HOMONYM**

The "homo" bit of the word comes from the Greek word "homós", meaning "same". The "nym" bit comes from the Greek too, it means "word".

**Put them together and we've got a word which means "same word".**

*So... The Greek meanings are telling us that homonyms are words which are **the same in some way**.*

## **HOMOPHONE**

The "homo" bit of the word comes from the Greek word "homós", meaning "same". The "phone" bit comes from the Greek word "phóné", meaning "sound".

**Put them together and we've got a word which means "same sound".**

*So... The Greek meanings are telling us that homophones are words which have **the same sound**.*

## **HOMOGRAPH**

The "homo" bit of the word comes from the Greek word "homós" meaning "same". The "graph" bit comes from the Greek too, it means (something) "written".

**Put them together and we've got a word which means "same written".**

*So... The Greek meanings are telling us that homographs are words which are **written the same**.*