Words which are spelled the same but which have different meanings are called **homographs**, e.g. ‘cricket’ means both ‘a sport’ and ‘an insect’. Some homographs are pronounced differently, such as ‘bow’ (rhyming with ‘cow’) meaning ‘to bend down’, and ‘bow’ (rhyming with ‘low’) which is used in archery.

### GETTING STARTED

Which of the following homographs are being described below? Write the correct word in the box.

- bat
- pulse
- spell
- waffle
- rose

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEANING</th>
<th>HOMOGRAPH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. A prickly bush or shrub with ornamental usually fragrant flowers or went upwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. The rhythmical movement of the arteries as blood is pumped through them or the edible seed of peas, beans, and lentils</td>
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<td>3. A shaped piece of wood used to hit the ball in sports like cricket, baseball or table tennis or a flying animal that looks like a mouse with wings</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. A saying or action supposed to have magical power or a period of time</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. A small cake made of batter and eaten not or wordy talk or writing</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### MOVING ON

Find two separate meanings for the following homographs.

1. **park**
2. **match**
3. **coat**
4. **fly**
5. **ground**

How many did you get right?

- 2 = Novice
- 5 = Expert
- 8 = Maestro

You can use your Oxford English Dictionary for Schools, School, and Student’s Dictionaries for these activities.