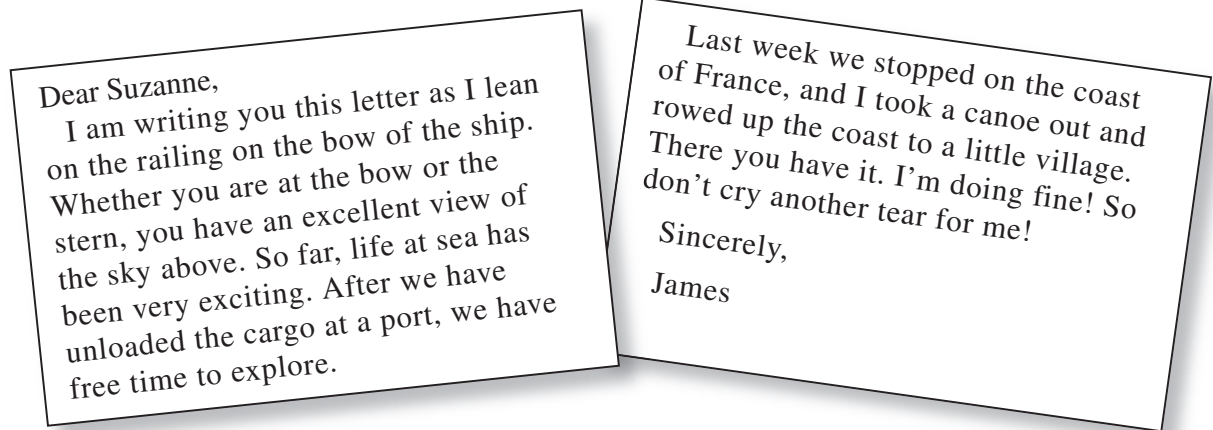


Vocabulary • Context Clues

- **Homonyms** are words that are spelled and pronounced the same but have different meanings. **Homographs** are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings and pronunciations.
- Use **context clues** to help you figure out the meaning of homonyms and homographs.

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



Possible answers given.

1. How do you know that the word *stern* does not mean “firm” in this letter?

In this letter, the word is used to describe part of a ship.

2. Which words from the passage tell you whether the homonym *lean* means “thin” or “to rest on something or someone for support”?

on the railing

3. What context clue helps you know the meaning of *tear* in this letter?

The word *cry* helps me know that in this sentence tear means “a drop of fluid” rather than “a rip.”

4. How is the word *bow* a homonym?

***Bow* can mean to “bend forward” or “the front end of a boat.”**

5. Are the words *days* and *daze* homographs? Why or why not?

No; they are spelled differently.



Home Activity Your child identified the meanings of homographs and homonyms by using context clues. Make a list of all the homographs and homonyms that you can think of. After each word, draw a picture that shows the different meanings of each word.