

## Word and Sentence Study

In this lesson, you will learn how to pronounce words by the way they are used in a sentence. This practice is called looking for context clues. You will also read about sentences, both written and spoken. As you read through the examples below, identify the subject and the predicate. Ask yourself if the sentence expresses a complete thought.

Certain words need to be identified by the way they are used in sentences. For example, you do not know how to pronounce the word lead until you see it used in a sentence. In the sentence, "I will lead the way," the ea has the long /e/ sound. In the sentence, "The pencil was made of lead," the ea has the short /e/ sound. Words that are spelled the same but have different meanings and are pronounced differently are called **homonyms** or **heteronyms**.

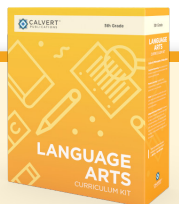


| Heteronyms

Homonyms are actually three classes of words: 1) words that sound the same but have different spellings and meaning; 2) words with exactly the same sound and spelling but can mean different things; and 3) words that are spelled the same but sound different and mean different things. A heteronym is one of two words that are spelled the same, but sound different and mean different things. For example, bass (having a deep voice) and bass (a type of fish). Bass, as in a deep voice, sounds like *base*, as in baseball. But bass, like the fish, makes the same -a sound as *grass*.

You may have noticed the pronunciation key that usually follows vocabulary. Below is a picture of a key that will help you pronounce words correctly.

PRONUNCIATION KEY			
SPELLINGS	SYMBOLS	SPELLINGS	SYMBOLS
hat	ă	cup	ŭ
age	ā	term	û
care	â	child	ch
far	ä	long	ng
let	ě	thin	th
equal	ē	then	th
it	í	measure	zh
ice	ī	about	ə
hot	ö	taken	ə
open	ō	pencil	ə
order	ô	lemon	ə
oil	oi	circus	
out	ou		





## The Village Blacksmith

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1840)

- 1 Under a spreading chestnut-tree  
The village smithy stands;  
The smith, a mighty man is he,  
With large and sinewy hands;  
5 And the muscles of his brawny arms  
Are strong as iron bands.
- His hair is crisp, and black, and long,  
His face is like the tan;  
His brow is wet with honest sweat,  
10 He earns whate'er he can,  
And looks the whole world in the face,  
For he owes not any man.
- Week in, week out, from morn till night,  
You can hear his bellows<sup>1</sup> blow;  
You can hear him swing his heavy sledge,<sup>2</sup>  
15 With measured beat and slow,  
Like a sexton<sup>3</sup> ringing the village bell,  
When the evening sun is low.

<sup>1</sup>air pump  
<sup>2</sup>hammer  
<sup>3</sup>church official



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