

Word Double-Take Answer Key

Homographs in the Passage:

- **duck** - (a bird / to lower quickly)
- **rock** - (a stone / to move back and forth)
- **park** - (a recreational area / to stop and leave a vehicle — implied through context)
- **watch** - (a timepiece / to look carefully)
- **row** - (a line of things / to paddle a boat)

Comprehension Answers:

1. **Duck** first means the animal; the second means to lower herself quickly to avoid being hit.
2. **Rock** first means a small stone; the second means to move back and forth on the water.
3. **Watch** can mean the object on her wrist or the act of observing something carefully.
4. **Row** first means a line or series of boards on the dock; the second means to paddle the boat.
5. The main idea is that words can have multiple meanings depending on how they're used in context.
6. Authors use homographs to make language richer, create wordplay, or add deeper meaning to a story.
7. *(Answers will vary; sample: "I had to duck when the frisbee flew toward me.")*

Teacher's Guide

- Read the passage aloud and pause after each homograph to ask what it means in that sentence
- Have students work in pairs to discuss each homograph's two meanings
- Emphasize context clues that reveal which meaning fits best

Differentiation Ideas:

- **Grades 5-6:** Ask students to write short dialogues that include at least two homographs with different meanings
- **Grades 7-9:** Challenge students to identify tone or humor created by homographs in literature or media