



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Let's Get Punny

*An activity of "Recycling soap to help people in need"*

Did you get the joke? In the article "**Recycling soap to help people in need**" (page 8, *What's Up* June 2022), the writer describes the soap recycling operation as "clean". The word "clean" here means "law-abiding". This is funny because we also know that the story's topic, soap, makes us clean literally!

This is an example of a **homographic pun** — a form of wordplay that uses the many meanings of a word for a humorous effect. You can find such puns everywhere, from classic poems to modern advertisements and headlines. Let's take a closer look at puns today!

### PART 1

For each case in the first column, underline the pun. Explain its two meanings. The first one has been done for you as an example.

Spot the pun	The first meaning	The second meaning
1. Why did the tiger spit out the clown? Because he <u>tasted funny</u> .	<i>"Tasted funny" means "tasted strange", hence the tiger spat out the clown.</i>	<i>"Funny" also means "humorous" — which is what a clown is supposed to be.</i>
2. How do you make a sausage roll? Push it down a hill.		
3. After hours of waiting for the bowling alley to open, we finally got the ball rolling.		
4. Being struck by lightning is a shocking experience.		
5. What does bread say when it gets too hot? "It's getting toasty!"		

## PART 2

Can you find the answer to these puns? (Need help? Hints are given below.)

1. Why are fish so smart? They live in \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What do you get from a pampered cow? \_\_\_\_\_ milk.
3. How do celebrities stay cool? They have many \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Leopards can never hide because they'll always be \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Why did the teddy bear say no to dessert? Because it was \_\_\_\_\_.



Hints for Part 2:  
1. What do you call a group of fish?  
2. What is another word for "pampered"?  
3. Who loves celebrities?  
4. What does a leopard look like?  
5. What is inside a teddy bear?

## PART 3

Create your own puns using the following words and their multiple meanings.

1. **bark** (a sound produced by a dog, and the outer layer of a tree trunk)

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2. **trip** (to take a holiday/to fall over something)

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3. **wave** (seawater breaking on the shore, and moving one's hand as a greeting)

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4. **blue** (the colour blue, and feeling sad)

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