

Comic Strip: "Jane & Austin's Literary Laughs" • Issue: October 5, 2009

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

# Pun for Fun

Did you laugh or groan when you read "Jane & Austin's Literary Laughs"? Those are the usual responses to a **pun**, the form of humor used in the comic. A **pun** is a play on words that have similar pronunciations or more than one meaning.

**Examples:**

*Sir Lancelot dreamed that King Arthur had disappeared; it was such a knight mare!*  
*The antique globe in my dad's study means the world to him.*

In the comic, Austin makes two puns in one speech bubble: "Edgar Allan Poe lies? They should have named his story the Tall-Tale Heart!" His first pun is on lies, meaning "untruths" and "to be at rest in the grave." The second pun is Tall-Tale, which means "a made-up story." It also sounds like Tell-Tale, as in Poe's masterpiece "The Tell-Tale Heart."

**Directions:** Below is a list of 10 words with more than one meaning. Choose five of the words. Then use each word as a pun in a sentence.

**PUN BANK**

- |                      |            |              |                |                |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. patience/patients | 3. seasons | 5. sew/so    | 7. write/right | 9. side/sighed |
| 2. lettuce/let us    | 4. well    | 6. beat/beet | 8. rough/ruff  | 10. whoa/woe   |

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
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