

Name _____ **Lexical Ambiguity**



Lexical Ambiguity

The word lexical means relating to words. Ambiguous means open to interpretation or having more than one meaning. Lexical ambiguity in a sentence occurs when a word is used that has more than one meaning such that multiple meanings of the sentence are possible.

EXAMPLE: I'll meet you at the **bank**.

The word "bank" is ambiguous. Will they meet at the riverbank or at the financial institution? Though with additional context the meaning may be clear, it is best to avoid lexical ambiguity by adding additional information to the sentence so that its meaning is clear.

DIRECTIONS: Circle the ambiguous word in each sentence.

1. Here's my favorite pitcher.
2. My mother donated an organ.
3. There are a lot of cranes in this area.
4. Her swing is nicer than it used to be.
5. That's the star that I call Charlie.
6. I really enjoyed the pool with you the other day.
7. John is having a really hard time finding a match.

