

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

I can understand the difference in meaning between homophones and near-homophones.

"On the outskirts of a village in France, an elderly farmer kept a flock of bantam hens in his barn. Among them was \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> little hen who was sometimes pecked by the others. Food was scarce and they \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> always let her share the grain the farmer \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> them.

It was wartime. The old stone barn echoed \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> the sounds of heavy tanks rolling past, and to the beat of soldiers' boots as regiment after regiment marched towards the battlefield just over the hill.

The rattle \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> machine-gun fire and the flash of shells exploding in the distance had been part of the hen's \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> from the beginning. She had grown used to the sounds of war. She was \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> afraid of the sharp beaks and claws of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> of her barnyard companions.

The battle spread towards the village. When the smell of gunpowder began to drift across the farmyard, the farmer \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> together his best animals and prepared to drive them to safer land further south. As he did not have enough room for the hens, the farmer opened the barn door and left them to fend for themselves.

The hens scratched about in the farmyard during day, and returned to the farm to roost during the evening. That is, all except the smallest hen. She kept apart from the others, foraging in nearby fields and sleeping at \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> under an overgrown hedge \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> the roadside.

One night \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> was a deafening explosion. A stray shell had landed near the farmyard. The barn collapsed into a heap of broken beams and jumbled stones. Then \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> was silence. Only the hen under the hedge survived, but in the blast, she was thrown among the branches and could not struggle \_\_\_\_\_<sup>15</sup>."

Homophone and Near-Homophone Word Bank

1. one/won	6. off/of	11. knight/night
2. wood/would	7. live/life	12. by/buy
3. not/knot	8. more/moor	13. there/they're/their
4. threw/through	9. sum/some	14. there/they're/their
5. too/to/two	10. herded/heard	15. free/three