Homophones are words that all have the same sound, but they might not have the same spelling or meaning. If they do happen to also have the same spelling -- but different meaning -- they are homonyms, a subset of homophones. Words that always have the same spelling -- but might not sound the same, and might not have the same meaning either -- are called homographs.

Circle the word that fits into the blank in the sentence:

1. (pear / pair) I decided to eat a _________ after I had lunch.
2. (bear / bare) The movie was so tense, I couldn't _________ to watch.
3. (plain / plane) I flew on a _________ for the very first time.
4. (raise / rays) I get so sleepy in the sunshine, I can hardly _________ my head.
5. (paws / pause) She made me _________ and wait, before I went in.
6. (toad / towed) They _________ away my dad’s car by mistake.

Check each correct definition. Then circle the type(s) of word each is:

ball  
- [ ] a round sphere, often used in playing games.  
- [ ] a large, formal dance  
- [ ] Homophone  
- [ ] Homonym  
- [ ] Homograph

lives  
- [ ] finds pleasant or attractive  
- [ ] the complete time periods when people exist  
- [ ] Homophone  
- [ ] Homonym  
- [ ] Homograph

bow  
- [ ] the shape of a knotted tie in a ribbon or string  
- [ ] incline and bend in politeness toward someone  
- [ ] Homophone  
- [ ] Homonym  
- [ ] Homograph

tear  
- [ ] to rip something  
- [ ] a drop of water that falls from the eyes  
- [ ] Homophone  
- [ ] Homonym  
- [ ] Homograph

close  
- [ ] nearby, in time or space  
- [ ] garments that people wear  
- [ ] Homophone  
- [ ] Homonym  
- [ ] Homograph