

Answer Key: Homonyms

The following paragraphs are written correctly.

I came to **know** Eddie when I was in kindergarten. **By** the time we were in third grade, we were best friends. We did everything together—playing ball, swimming, irritating our moms, irritating our teachers, and just generally being buddies. Life was fun and easy; we **were** never **too** worried about anything.

Then, in fourth grade, everything changed. Eddie's dad broke both of his legs and one arm in a serious car accident. He had to go **through weeks** and **weeks** of physical therapy, and many times he became discouraged. Eddie's **whole** life changed because his family needed him to help at home. In fact, all the family members had to put aside **their own** problems to help Eddie's dad as he recovered. After school every day, Eddie went straight home, did his chores, and spent some time with his dad. Then, after supper he **would** call me and we **would** talk **on** the phone for a while. Eddie **missed** playing with the guys, but he was just so happy his dad was going to be all right that he didn't **mind** giving up some of his **own** activities. After six or **eight weeks**, Eddie's dad got better, and Eddie got back to his usual **life**.

But somehow, this experience had changed Eddie. All of a sudden, he **seemed** older—more mature than the rest of us. It was hard for me to **feel** the same way about him as I did before because I wasn't sure **whether** Eddie still considered me his best friend or not. But I realized that Eddie had been forced to face some problems that most of us **fourth-**graders had not had to deal with. I stuck by him, and we became better friends than ever. He helped me learn to appreciate my family because he had almost lost part of his. **Even though** Eddie and I now attend different colleges, we are still close friends and we e-mail each other regularly. Because of what he went **through** with his dad, Eddie decided to become a doctor. He is now grateful for the problems he had as a kid because **through** them he learned to be a better person.