

Italics

Part A

Italics are used in English for emphasis or to show a speaker's intonation or stress* on a word or for signalling foreign words that are used in English. They are also sometimes used for the names of book, films etc. People sometimes use them for the names of products.

They are also sometimes used for additional notes, such as the one below:

**Note 'stress' in this case means that the word is emphasised when spoken.*

Italics should be used *sparingly*, though. If you've got a mix of normal and italic text in a piece of writing, it can make it *very difficult* to read. Like this one!!!! It's a *bit* like using too many exclamation marks; it's just *not done* since it makes your writing sound over-excited!!

Using the rules above, highlight or underline where the italics should go in the text below, then fill in the table with the the italicised words under the column to which they relate to.

Last month, my family and I went on holiday to Italy. It was amazing! I'd never been there before but my dad had been when he was a boy so he wanted to take us there before we grew up. We drove all the way there! On the way, I listened to my new iPod. It's the first time I've heard Tears on the Dancefloor by Steps, and it's brilliant! I was bum-dancing all the way! My sister, Madison, though, talked ad nauseum* all the way there about some book she was reading, The Girl of Ink and Stars or something. I was exhausted by the time we got to Rome.

When we arrived at the 'villa', Dad went in first to check it out. When he came out, oh my god, his face was ashen. He was shouting at the guy, "This place is supposed to be for three but it's more like a pied-a-terre! I can't believe you're charging what you've charged us for that dump!" The guy just shrugged and grunted, "caveat emptor".

*Ad nauseum is Latin for when someone goes on about something so much you feel like you're going to be sick!

Intonation/Stress	Names of Books etc.	Foreign Words

Italics

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Highlight or underline where the italics should go in this text below, using the rules above:

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Can you carry on the story and include some italicised words of your own?

★ Challenge Task ★

Can you create your own passage of text using these rules?

- Some italicised words/phrases for your emphasis as the writer/narrator.
- Some italicised words/phrases in speech that indicate the speaker's intonation or stress.
- Some names of books or other media.
- An additional note.

Italics Answers

Suggested answers for the text. Your emphasis might be on some different words:

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