

Years 5 Punctuation:

Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Learning From Home Activity Booklet

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Sandwich Sentences

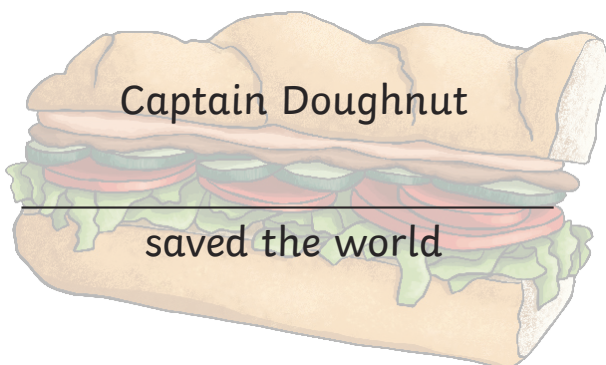
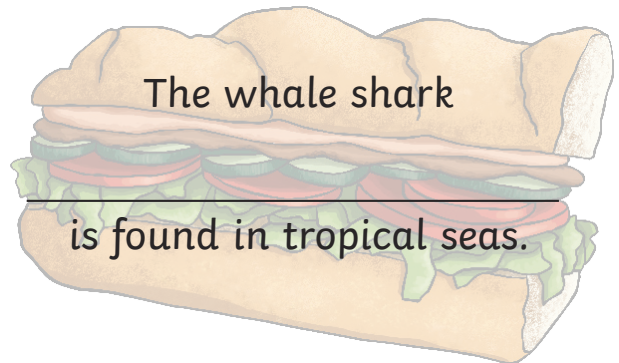
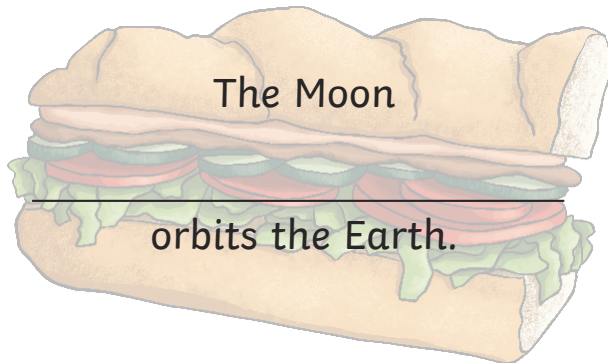
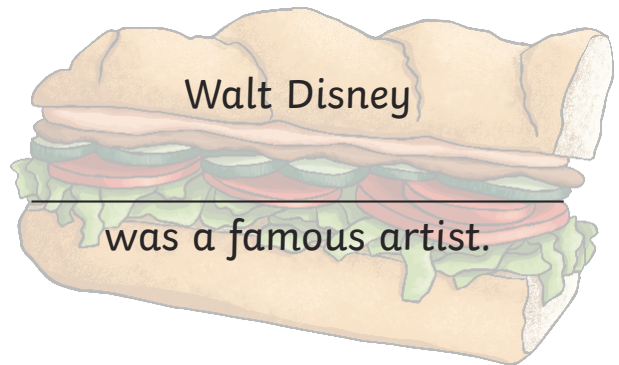
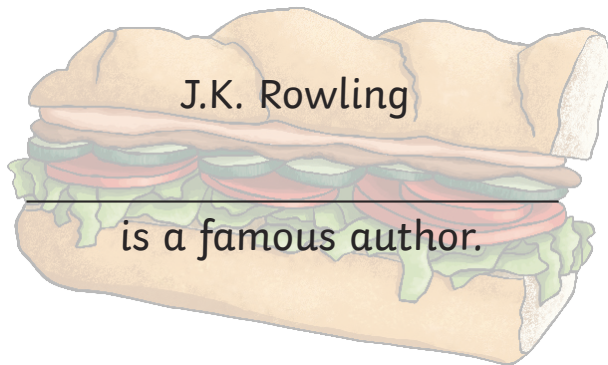
Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

When writing, you can add **parenthesis** to the middle of a sentence to add extra information. **Parenthesis** is when a word, phrase or clause is inserted into the sentence to give extra information. They are sometimes also known as an **embedded clauses** or as **embedded relative clauses** (if they begin with a relative pronoun). For example:

Susie likes to play rugby at school.

Susie, **who is very sporty**, likes to play rugby at school.

In the example above, the parenthesis has been placed in the middle of the sentence after the proper noun 'Susie', who it gives more information about. You can think of it as a sandwich. The parenthesis is the filling that goes between the two slices of bread. We use commas to separate the parenthesis from the main part of the sentence. Complete the sandwiches sentences below by adding parenthesis clauses of additional information from the box:



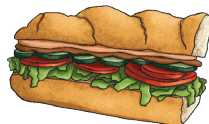
Parenthesis
, a very large fish,
, which is a natural satellite,
, who wrote the Harry Potter books,
, a renowned superhero,
, who created Mickey Mouse,

Sandwich Sentences 2

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

This time add your own parenthesis clauses to each of the sentences below after the noun written in **bold**. Remember to place commas around the parenthesis.

1. **Super Mario** _____ was designed by Nintendo.
2. The **cheetah** _____ uses its tail to balance when running at great speeds.
3. **Poppies** _____ are worn to remember those that lost their lives during war.
4. The **ancient pyramids** _____ contained the burial chambers of many Pharaohs.
5. Stealthily, the **killer whale** _____ hunts its prey.
6. The **fireworks** _____ exploded in the night sky.
7. The **flowers** _____ waved in the gentle breeze.
8. The **people** _____ joyfully danced to the loud music.
9. By the river, the **children** _____ played pooh sticks.
10. The **fierce bear** _____ paced through the forest.



Parenthesis Picture

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Using the Little Red Riding Hood picture below, write your own sentences that include parenthesis. Remember to separate the parenthesis from the main sentence by surrounding it in a pair of commas. The first one has been completed for you as an example.



1. Grandma's house, **which had a roof made from straw**, sat by the tall trees of the forest.

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Bridget Bracket

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Bridget Bracket loves to use brackets for parenthesis in her sentences. **Parenthesis** is a word, phrase or clause that is put in writing as extra information. Because the information is usually non-essential, if you took the parenthesis away the sentence would still make sense. For example:

Dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years ago.

Dinosaurs (**a type of reptile**) became extinct 65 million years ago.

Bridget Bracket wants you to read the sentences below and add the brackets around the parenthesis (the bit of extra information in each sentence).

1. Ben Nevis the tallest mountain in the UK is found in Scotland.
2. Elvis Presley who was born in 1935 was a famous American singer and actor.
3. Prince William who is a member of the royal family helped open the new hospital.
4. Mary Berry famous for her recipes is a judge in a baking competition.
5. In school, Mia a four-year-old girl was sat eating chocolate cake.
6. The black rhino an animal found in Africa is an endangered species.
7. Neil Armstrong an American astronaut was the first man on the moon.



Bridget Bracket's 2nd Challenge

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Well done for completing Bridget Bracket's first challenge! Now, can you complete her next challenge? Match the **parenthesis** with the sentence it would relate to most by drawing a line to match them together.

Sentences

Mars is one of the closest planets to Earth.
The dog chased the squirrel in the park.
We visited Madrid in the summer holidays.
Queen Victoria is the second longest-reigning British monarch.
The boy is building a snowman.

Parenthesis

1819-1901
the capital of Spain
who was wearing a red hat and mittens
a large golden retriever
also known as the red planet



The Double Dash

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Dashes can also be used to mark out extra information (parenthesis), which is inserted into a sentence much like commas or brackets. For example:

The train – **which was already running late** – had to travel slowly due to leaves on the track.

The sentence above would still make sense without the **parenthesis** in dashes. However, the **dashes** highlight the extra information for the reader. For each of the sentences below, try and add an extra phrase or clause of information (**parenthesis**) using dashes to separate it from the sentence. The first one has been done for you.

1. I watched a Christmas film - **A Christmas Carol** - and it made me feel happy.
2. Lions _____ can be found in parts of Africa.
3. Jupiter _____ is named after a Roman god.
4. The aeroplane _____ couldn't take off due to the bad weather.
5. The young boy _____ won the race!
6. Many cats _____ sleep for 15 hours a day.
7. The rainforest _____ is in danger of being cut down.
8. Last week _____ I fell at school and grazed my knee.



The Dramatic Dash

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Whereas brackets must always come in pairs, only one dash is required if the parenthesis comes at the end of a sentence. A dash by itself can be used to separate something dramatic (and usually contrasting) at the end of the sentence from the start of a sentence. For example:

It was a dark night – perhaps the darkest night he'd ever seen.

Match the start of the sentence to the dramatic parenthesis best suited to it. Then, write the sentences out correctly below and place the dash in the correct position in each one.

Start of the sentence

It was a hot day
The jaguar scanned the undergrowth
He walked into the room
She looked at her watch

Dramatic parenthesis

its prey was trying to hide.
he had no idea there was somebody hiding there.
possibly the hottest day of the year!
when would her friend arrive?

Now write each sentence out correctly in the spaces below. Remember to include the dramatic dash!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Parenthesis Paragraph

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis



Look at the paragraph below about the animals at Chester Zoo. Some of the words have been written in bold. Please rewrite the paragraph adding parenthesis about the words in bold. For example:

The monkey's feeding **time** is very popular with the visitors.

The monkey's feeding **time** (at 10.00 am each day) is very popular with the visitors.

You can choose whether to use commas, brackets or dashes.

Hint: You may wish to research Chester Zoo online with an adult before completing this activity.

Chester Zoo was first opened in 1931. There are over 500 species of animals and 125 acres of habitats to **explore!** For those interested in big cats, exotic **jaguars** can be observed in a replica of their natural habitat. There are also lions, cheetahs and tigers. For fans of reptiles, you can find all sorts of **scaly creatures** in the tropical house. The **elephants** are located near the main entrance. In addition to all of the animal species, there are also many **picnic areas**.

Parenthesis Punctuation Poster

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

On this page, create a poster explaining how to use commas, brackets and dashes for parenthesis. Write an explanation in each box on how to use them and then write an example sentence for each one. You can display this poster to remind you how to write and punctuate parenthesis.

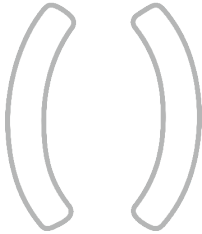
Commas



Explanation: _____

Example: _____

Brackets



Explanation: _____

Example: _____

Double Dashes



Explanation: _____

Example: _____

Single Dramatic Dashes



Explanation: _____

Example: _____

A Parent's Guide to Using Commas, Brackets and Dashes to Indicate Parenthesis

In Year 5, children are expected to use brackets, commas and dashes to indicate parenthesis in their independent writing. This booklet is a great way to help your child practise using this punctuation so that they can then apply it in their own writing.

Parenthesis

When we add an additional non-essential word, phrase or clause to a sentence, we call this **parenthesis**. Without the **parenthesis**, the sentence would still make grammatical sense, for example:

Queen Elizabeth II ascended the throne on her coronation in 1953.

Queen Elizabeth II, **the longest-reigning monarch**, ascended the throne on her coronation in 1953.

A parenthesis can be separated from the rest of the sentence by **commas**, **dashes**, or **brackets** (all called parentheses).

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis Answers

page 3. Sandwich Sentences.

1. J.K. Rowling, **who wrote the Harry Potter books**, is a famous author.
2. Walt Disney, **who created Mickey Mouse**, was a famous artist.
3. The Moon, **which is a natural satellite**, orbits the Earth.
4. The whale shark, **a very large fish**, is found in tropical seas.
5. Captain Doughnut, **a renowned superhero**, saved the world.

page 6. Bridget Bracket.

1. Ben Nevis (the tallest mountain in the UK) is found in Scotland.
2. Elvis Presley (who was born in 1935) was a famous American singer and actor.
3. Prince William (who is a member of the royal family) helped open the new hospital.
4. Mary Berry (famous for her recipes) is a judge in a baking competition.
5. In school, Mia (a four-year-old girl) was sat eating chocolate cake.
6. The black rhino (an animal found in Africa) is an endangered species.
7. Neil Armstrong (an American astronaut) was the first man on the moon.

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis Answers

page 7. Bridget Bracket's 2nd Challenge.

Sentences	Parenthesis
Mars is one of the closest planets to Earth.	1819-1901
The dog chased the squirrel in the park.	the capital of Spain
We visited Madrid in the summer holidays.	who was wearing a red hat and mittens
Queen Victoria is the second longest-reignin British monarch.	a large golden retriever
The boy is building a snowman.	also known as the red planet

page 8. The Double Dash.

1. I watched a Christmas film - **A Christmas Carol** - and it made me feel happy.
2. Lions - **a large type of cat** - can be found in parts of Africa.
3. Jupiter - **the largest planet in the solar system** - is named after a Roman god.
4. The aeroplane - **which was already late** - couldn't take off due to the bad weather.
5. The young boy - **the fastest athlete in school** - won the race!
6. Many cats - **but not all of them** - sleep for 15 hours a day.
7. The rainforest - **full of many rare plants and animals** - is in danger of being cut down.
8. Last week - **on Tuesday morning** - I fell at school and grazed my knee.

Year 5 Punctuation: Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Indicate Parenthesis Answers

page 9. The Dramatic Dash.

Start of the sentence	Dramatic parenthesis
It was a hot day	its prey was trying to hide.
The jaguar scanned the undergrowth	he had no idea there was somebody hiding there.
He walked into the room	possibly the hottest day of the year!
She looked at her watch	when would her friend arrive?

page 10. Parenthesis Paragraph.

Example Answers:

Chester Zoo, **a zoo in the North of England**, was first opened in 1931. There are over 500 species of animals and 125 acres of habitats to explore – **it's great fun for the whole family!** For those interested in big cats, exotic jaguars (**an endangered species in the wild**) can be observed in a replica of their natural habitat. There are also lions, cheetahs and tigers. For fans of reptiles, you can find all sorts of scaly creatures (**like snakes, and lizards**) in the tropical house. The elephants, **who are a popular attraction**, are located near the main entrance. In addition to all of the animal species, there are also many picnic areas – **fantastic outdoor places where you can enjoy your own food.**