

Year 5 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Parenthesis Warm-Up



What Is Parenthesis?

Parenthesis is the addition of extra information or an afterthought in our writing.

It can be a word, phrase or clause marked with brackets, dashes or commas.

When a parenthesis is removed, the sentence still makes grammatical sense.

e.g. I moved to Sheffield in 2011 (when I was six years old).

still makes sense as:

I moved to Sheffield in 2011.

Parenthesis Punctuation

There are three possible ways to punctuate parenthesis.

Can you think of the three possible ways to punctuate parenthesis?

- Commas



- Brackets



- dashes



Spot the Parenthesis

Can you identify the parenthesis in the following sentences?

The narcissus, daffodil, is a spring plant with yellow petals.

My brother - the one who lives in Australia- is coming over for Christmas.

Ramchester won the league today (for the fifth season running).

Remember to only put brackets, dashes or commas around the parenthesis itself.

Check that your sentence still makes sense if you didn't read the part you have added the extra punctuation to.

Adding Parenthesis

Write sentences about these pictures where you add a parenthesis:



Ready for action, Superman (**wearing his trademark red cape**) called his friends to join him in the fight against evil.



Supergirl - well known for her super strength and super speed - had beaten Superman to the action.

Quick Quiz 1

Decide where the punctuation for parenthesis should be in these sentences:

The newspaper, which is normally delivered at 9:30, did not come today.

Today we went on a trip to York (where I had never been before.)

Some people don't like the rain (especially in England) but I do.

Many cats (but not all of them) sleep for 15 hours a day.

Ricki plays the guitar - I am sure he will be a rock star one day - in our school band.

Quick Quiz 2

Identify whether the following sentences correctly use the punctuation for parenthesis:

Her father a spy drove his daughter – to the cinema – to meet friends.

Her father – a spy – drove his daughter to the cinema to meet friends.



I don't believe in UFOs (unidentified flying objects).



Shelly the captain, of the team, was a very skilful player.

Shelly, the captain of the team, was a very skilful player.



St. George, the patron saint of England, was a Roman soldier.



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