

Day 1

Teach

Watch the videos on this website and read through the information:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zhpt7yc>

Or, read this information below:

When we're writing, we can add extra words to a sentence to give more information or explanation.

We call the extra words that have been added a parenthesis.

Brackets, dashes or commas (punctuation that we use to help us add those extra words) are sometimes called parenthesess. Notice the slight difference in spelling.

When we're writing, we can add extra words to a sentence to give more information or explanation.

We call the extra words that have been added a parenthesis.

Brackets, dashes or commas (punctuation that we use to help us add those extra words) are sometimes called parenthesess. Notice the slight difference in spelling.

Practice

Activity 1 & 2

Activities 1 and 2 can be completed on the website attached at the top.

Activity 3

Look at the sentences below that have come from different books.

Unfortunately the authors of the books have forgotten to show where the parenthesis is supposed to be!

Re-write the sentences and add brackets, dashes or commas to show parenthesis and make the writing completely clear.

Top tip!

- When you read the sentences, try to work out which information could be taken away but not change the meaning of the original sentence. This will help you to spot where the parenthesis should go.

1. Add brackets to the sentences beneath the book titles to show parenthesis.

One has been done for you as an example.

Blue Whale Ocean by C. Greene

Blue whales like human beings are warm-blooded mammals.

Blue whales (like human beings) are warm-blooded mammals.

How to be great by I.M. Bigheaded

I always find any challenge super easy a fact that not everyone realises because I'm just the best.

2. Add dashes to the sentences beneath the book titles to show parenthesis.

Tower of Terror by I.C. Shivers

"We've been walking and we are definitely lost by the way for hours!" wailed JJ.

Play the guitar and go far by U.R.A. Pro

Make sure you tune the strings something you should do daily before you play.

3. Add commas to the sentences beneath the book titles to show parenthesis.

Albert the Alien by Anne Dromeda

Albert carefully and thoughtfully checked his star map.

Be the best at broadcasting by T.V. Skills

One of the stars of the show a really famous singer was always late for rehearsals.

Now check how you got on using this answer sheet:

<https://bam.files.bbc.co.uk/bam/live/content/zn4d4xs/pdf>

Day 2

Teach

Work through the information on this website, watching the videos:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zvjgf82>

If you can't watch the video, read the information below:

Colons (:), **semi-colons** (;) and **dashes** (–) are important features in punctuation.

Being able to use them correctly will give your writing more impact, making what you say clearer for the reader.

We use colons and semi-colons to join **independent clauses** and make them part of one sentence.

- A clause is a group of words.
- An independent clause is a group of words that *could* make some sense when used on its own, but is clearer when it is joined to another clause.

Look at these examples:

1. Hannah loves football; it's her favourite sport.

In this sentence, one of the clauses ('it's her favourite sport') wouldn't make full sense on its own. It needs the first clause to be completely clear, so we link the two clauses together with a semi-colon (;).

2. Jay loves to work on penalty shots: he does 20 minutes' football practice every day.

In this sentence, a colon (:) marks a longer pause when the sentence is read out.

It joins two clauses that could be broken into two short sentences instead, but as the bits of information in the two clauses are so closely linked, we use the colon to connect them.

You can use a dash (–) instead of a semi-colon or colon if you're writing something chatty and informal – or if you want to show a moment of surprise or drama.

For example:

I've just found out we have a test tomorrow – oh no!

Sometimes it can be tricky to decide when to use a semi-colon and when to use a colon. It's often a matter of judgement.

More on semi-colons

Semi-colons can have other uses.

A semi-colon can also sometimes replace a co-ordinating conjunction in a sentence; a word like and, but, or so.

For example:

Her cape is yellow and his cape is green.

Instead of using 'and', we can write:

Her cape is yellow; his cape is green.

Practice

Activity 1

1. Jay's team was the Panthers and Hannah's was the Hawks.
2. It started to rain hard but the referee told them to play on.
3. Jay's dog began barking on the touchline so his mum had to take it home.

You can check your answers in this [answer sheet](#).

Activity 2

Activity 2 can be completed on the website.

Activity 3

Something is missing from these sentences, but is it a colon, a semi-colon or a dash? It's up to you to decide!

Write out each sentence on a piece of paper and add the missing punctuation.

1. Hannah's family cheered from one side of the pitch Jay's from the other.
2. The rain poured down it made a huge puddle in the middle of the pitch.
3. Jay fell flat on his face in a puddle splat!
4. The referee checked his watch five minutes to go.
5. With five minutes left, the Hawks and Panthers both had two goals each it was looking like it would be a draw.

You can check your answers in this [answer sheet](#).

Challenge

How will the match finish? Maybe it will get rained off, or will someone score at the last minute?

English Emergency Plan

Create an ending for the story, writing at least one sentence. Include a colon, semi-colon or a dash in what you write!