

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 tell your partner the three possible ways to punctuate parenthesis?

- Commas

A black comma symbol is displayed inside a light purple circle, which is part of a larger purple bar.

- Brackets

A black bracket symbol consisting of two parentheses is displayed inside a light purple circle, which is part of a larger purple bar.

- dashes

A black dash symbol is displayed inside a light purple circle, which is part of a larger purple bar.

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 showed the way – **despite being completely lost** – to find the villains.

