



# Consolidating Dashes

To use dashes to show parenthesis.



1. Tick the sentence in each set in which dashes have been used correctly.

a. My teacher is really funny – her jokes are awesome. ☐

My teacher – is really funny – her jokes are awesome. ☐

My teacher is really funny – her jokes – are awesome. ☐

b. My sister – who usually struggles – to get to sleep was fast asleep before I went to bed last night. ☐

My sister who usually struggles to get to sleep – was fast asleep before I went to bed last night. ☐

My sister – who usually struggles to get to sleep – was fast asleep before I went to bed last night. ☐





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- c. The giraffe reached hungrily for the leaves of the acacia tree – he felt very peckish this morning. ☐

The giraffe reached hungrily – for the leaves of the acacia tree – he felt very peckish this morning. ☐

The giraffe reached hungrily for the leaves of the acacia tree he felt very peckish – this morning. ☐

- d. Year 5's display which had taken hours to do – was completely ruined – by the flood in the corridor. ☐

Year 5's display which had taken hours – to do was completely ruined – by the flood in the corridor. ☐

Year 5's display – which had taken hours to do – was completely ruined by the flood in the corridor. ☐

2. Put the dashes into the following sentences.

- a. I woke up this morning to see that it had been snowing overnight my car was completely covered.

- b. My cat who is eighteen years old sleeps for up to twenty hours a day.

- c. Jake did an amazing audition for the show he really impressed the panel.

- d. Priya Anand the only girl on the team scored the winning goal.

3. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences.

- a. Sam Taylor – \_\_\_\_\_ – won the skipping race.

- b. My dog can run very quickly – \_\_\_\_\_.

- c. The car – \_\_\_\_\_ – smashed into the fence.

- d. The hedgehog curled into a ball – \_\_\_\_\_.



# Consolidating Dashes **Answers**

1. Tick the sentence in each set in which dashes have been used correctly.

a. My teacher is really funny – her jokes are awesome.

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My teacher – is really funny – her jokes are awesome.

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My teacher is really funny – her jokes – are awesome.

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My sister – who usually struggles to get to sleep – was fast asleep before I went to bed last night.

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c. The giraffe reached hungrily for the leaves of the acacia tree – he felt very peckish this morning.

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b. My cat – who is eighteen years old – sleeps for up to twenty hours a day.

c. Jake did an amazing audition for the show – he really impressed the panel.

d. Priya Anand – the only girl on the team – scored the winning goal.



# Consolidating Dashes **Answers**

3. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences.

- a. Sam Taylor – *a top athlete in our school* – won the skipping race.
- b. My dog can run very quickly – *he's incredible*.
- c. The car – *a brand new Tesla* – smashed into the fence.
- d. The hedgehog curled into a ball – *he felt threatened*.



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1. Put the dashes into the following sentences.

- a. I woke up this morning to see that it had been snowing overnight my car was completely covered.
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- c. Jake did an amazing audition for the show he really impressed the panel.
- d. Priya Anand the only girl on the team scored the winning goal.

2. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences.

- a. Sam Taylor – \_\_\_\_\_ – won the skipping race.
- b. My dog can run very quickly – \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. The car – \_\_\_\_\_ – smashed into the fence.
- d. The hedgehog curled into a ball – \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences. For these sentences, decide for yourself where the best place in the sentence to place the parenthesis is. (It might be within the sentence or at the end.)

- a. My guinea pig managed to squeeze out of a hole in his run and to escape.

\_\_\_\_\_

- b. I am so tired.

\_\_\_\_\_

- c. A new supermarket has opened in our town.

\_\_\_\_\_

- d. Buckingham Palace was the first place we visited when we arrived in London.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Consolidating Dashes **Answers**

1. Put the dashes into the following sentences.
  - a. I woke up this morning to see that it had been snowing overnight – my car was completely covered.
  - b. My cat – who is eighteen years old – sleeps for up to twenty hours a day.
  - c. Jake did an amazing audition for the show – he really impressed the panel.
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2. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences.
  - a. Sam Taylor – *a top athlete in our school* – won the skipping race.
  - b. My dog can run very quickly – *he's incredible*.
  - c. The car – *a brand new Tesla* – smashed into the fence.
  - d. The hedgehog curled into a ball – *he felt threatened*.
3. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences. For these sentences, decide for yourself where the best place in the sentence to place the parenthesis is. (It might be within the sentence or at the end.)

Example answers:

- a. My guinea pig – *he is only tiny* – managed to squeeze out of a hole in his run and to escape.
- b. I am so tired – *I hardly slept last night*.
- c. A new supermarket – *I think it is near the cinema* – has opened in our town.
- d. Buckingham Palace – *I've wanted to see it for ages* – was the first place we visited when we arrived in London.



# Consolidating Dashes

To use dashes to show parenthesis.



1. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences. The information in brackets will tell you should use a single dash or a pair of dashes.

E.g. I love tennis. (single dash)

I love tennis – I play it every day.

Sonny is coming on holiday with us next week. (pair of dashes)

Sonny – my favourite soft toy – is coming on holiday with us next week.

- a. Sam Taylor won the skipping race. (pair of dashes)

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- b. My dog can run very quickly. (single dash)

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# Consolidating Dashes

c. The car smashed into the fence. (pair of dashes)

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d. The hedgehog curled into a ball (pair of dashes)

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e. My guinea pig managed to squeeze out of a hole in his run and to escape. (pair of dashes)

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f. I am so tired. (single dash)

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g. A new supermarket has opened in our town. (pair of dashes)

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h. Buckingham Palace was the first place we visited when we arrived in London. (pair of dashes)

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2. How would you explain to a friend all the things you have learned about how to use dashes for parenthesis? Write down what you would say here:

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1. Add your own parenthesis to the following sentences.
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  - c. The car – *a brand new Tesla* – smashed into the fence.
  - d. The hedgehog curled into a ball – *he felt threatened*.
  - e. My guinea pig – *he is only tiny* – managed to squeeze out of a hole in his run and to escape.
  - f. I am so tired – *I hardly slept last night*.
  - g. A new supermarket – *I think it is near the cinema* – has opened in our town.
  - h. Buckingham Palace – *I've wanted to see it for ages* – was the first place we visited when we arrived in London.
2. How would you explain to a friend all the things you have learned about how to use dashes for parenthesis? Write down what you would say here:

Children's own responses, such as: *Dashes can be used to add in extra information to a sentence. This additional information is called a parenthesis. You can use a pair of dashes together in the same way that you would use brackets or one dash can be used to add on extra information at the end of a sentence. Dashes are often used when you want to add emphasis to the additional information or if you want to surprise the reader.*