

PARENTHESES

A parenthesis is a word or a phrase put into a sentence to give it more information.

Sometimes a parenthesis is in *italics*, sometimes it is in **(brackets)**, sometimes there is a

dash - and sometimes it has 'inverted commas' around it.

Parentheses are used to

1. Explain what a difficult word means.
2. Show someone's thoughts
3. Add extra information to help the reader
4. Emphasise a point

Remove the brackets from these sentences. To make this easier you should make two sentences. Look at this example.

The kittens (dashing around the garden as usual) were fighting when Carl came home.

The kittens were fighting when Carl came home. They were dashing round the garden as usual.

Copy these sentences into your books. You need to put in the missing brackets, so read them carefully first.

- a. The trainers (red and blue Nike Air) were very expensive.
- b. The cars (Cadillacs with mirror windows) looked as if they were carrying famous people.
- c. The shoes (made of patent leather) were all scuffed and dirty.
- d. Sydney Opera House (built at the entrance to Sydney harbour) is famous for its summer opera season.
- e. The children (who were very excited) couldn't wait to meet the Queen.
- f. The fire engine (which had sirens blaring and lights flashing) moved swiftly between the rush hour traffic.
- g. The diagram shown on the previous page is of a Boeing 747.
- h. Police Officers sometimes called 'bobbies' or 'peelers' get their nicknames from Sir Robert Peel.
- i. The Eiffel Tower found in Paris, France is made entirely of trifle.
- j. The Steelers based in Pittsburgh, America are a famous football team.
- k. The teacher who was new to the school took the class to the seaside.

Many people think that brackets and dashes are interchangeable (and sometimes commas can replace both). The sentences below need parentheses. Insert brackets, commas or dashes in each sentence.

1. I went to Berlin last year in May.
2. If you want a piece of fruit you can have two or three get it from the bowl.
3. The cat together with her kittens in tow crossed the garden.
4. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree Third Class.
5. The children lost interest the food was all gone.
6. The wood ten tons of it was lost in the fire.
7. She bought a lawnmower the last in the shop.
8. She drank her tea it was already cold and hurried out the door.
9. Jason my best friend lives next door.
10. William Shakespeare 1564-1616 was a playwright.
11. Our school St Luke's Science and Sports College is the best in the city.
12. The brilliant students in our class all worked well together we wrote a film about war.
13. The character of Smythe was shown when he said: 'I love everything about women.' p.14
14. Aren't you surprised I know I was by the size of it?
15. Can you make one I know it's hard to do by next Monday?