

Grade 4 English Language Arts

Week of October 13 – October 16

Lesson 2: Rules of Punctuation

Punctuation refers to **marks that are used in writing**. They help the reader know how to read and understand a text. In this section, you will be learning about the following punctuation:

- **Period .**
- **Comma ,**
- **Ellipsis ...**
- **Hyphen -**
- **Parenthesis ()**
- **Colon :**
- **Exclamation mark !**
- **Question mark ?**
- **Apostrophe '**
- **Quotation marks " "**



Punctuation can completely change the meaning of the sentence when it is missing or used incorrectly.

Let's look at the following example, and how punctuation can change the meaning of a sentence:



Let's eat Grandma Betty!

(means let's actually eat Grandma Betty as food)

Let's eat, Grandma Betty!

(Means come on Grandma Betty, let's go eat food!)

Without the use of a comma, Grandma Betty becomes the meal. Yikes, poor Grandma Betty!





A man eating chicken
(means a man who is eating chicken)

A man-eating chicken
(means a chicken who eats man)

The hyphen being used in different spots in the above sentences completely changes meaning of the sentence.

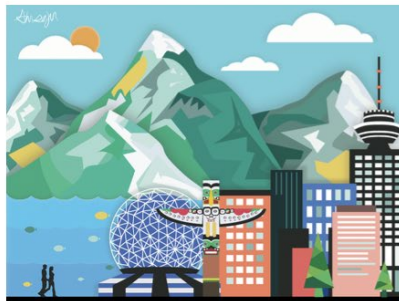


She lives in Vancouver!
(means that the speaker knows that she lives in Vancouver)

She lives in Vancouver?
(means that the speaker is unsure of/asking if she lives in Vancouver)

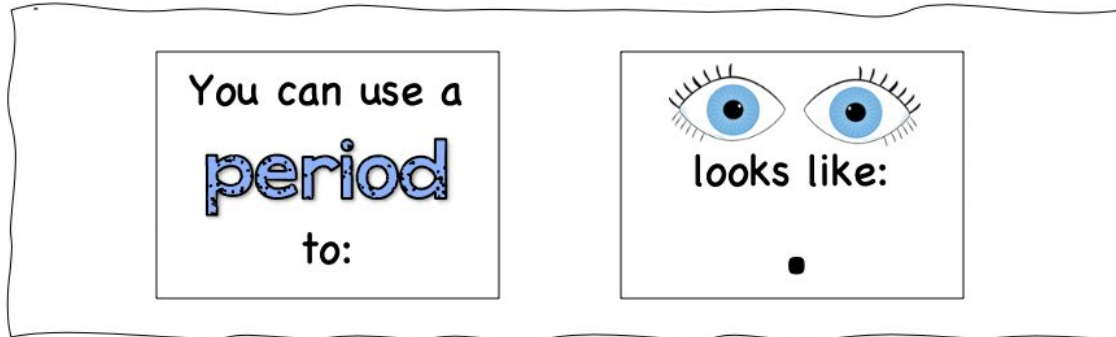
The exclamation mark vs. the question mark completely changes the reason for, and the meaning of, the sentence.

Depending on which punctuation is used, the sentence is said in a different way. With the exclamation mark, it is said with excitement and strong emotion. With the question mark, it is said with a questioning tone.



Period

Rules of Punctuation



1. End a complete sentence



The dog ate his breakfast.

2. Make a word shorter (called an abbreviation)



Mrs. Montgomery is nice.

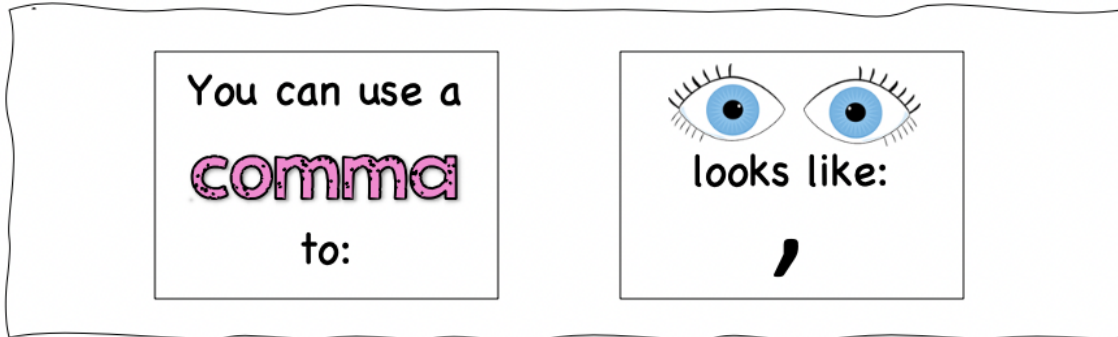
3. Show numbers smaller than 1 (called a decimal)



I ran around the track 1.25 times

Comma

Rules of Punctuation



1. List things



I like bananas, apples, peaches and grapes.

2. Separate two sentences with a conjunction



Brian is tired, yet he stays up late watching T.V.


3. Show a pause in a sentence or question



"Bob, will you please pass the salt?"

Apostrophe

Rules of Punctuation

<p>You can use an apostrophe to:</p>	 <p>looks like: ,</p>
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1. Combine two words by leaving out a letter
(called a contraction)



I can't come over today.

2. Show possession or ownership of something




That is Sally's baseball bat.

The athletes' uniforms are blue and white

Quotation Marks

Rules of Punctuation

<p>You can use a quotation marks to:</p>	 <p>looks like: “ ”</p>
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1. The quote someone/something
(use the exact words that they used)



“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much” – Helen Keller

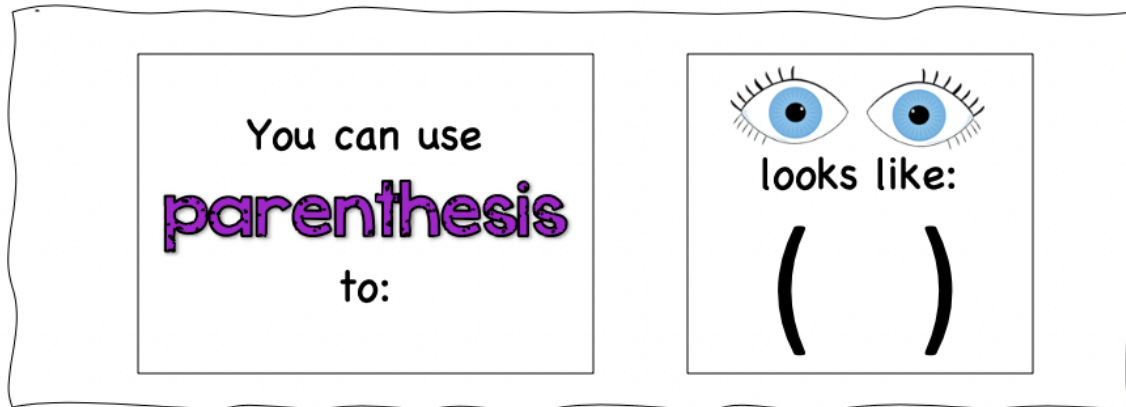
2. Indicate someone is talking in a piece of writing



“How are you?”, Carey asked.
“I’m great!”, replied Raoul

Parenthesis

Rules of Punctuation



1. Interrupt a sentence by explaining or commenting on it



Malia (a competitive swimmer) dreamed of one day competing in the Olympics

She was close to earning a spot in the 2021 Olympics, when she broke her elbow (what a shame!).

2. Showing other word endings or variations



Underline the verb(s) in the following sentence.
She ate quickly, then went to the beach.

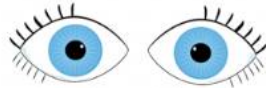
Hyphen

Rules of Punctuation

You can use a

hyphen

to:



looks like:

-

1. Join words that are meant to be read together



My brother works **part-time** at Subway.

2. Spell out numbers

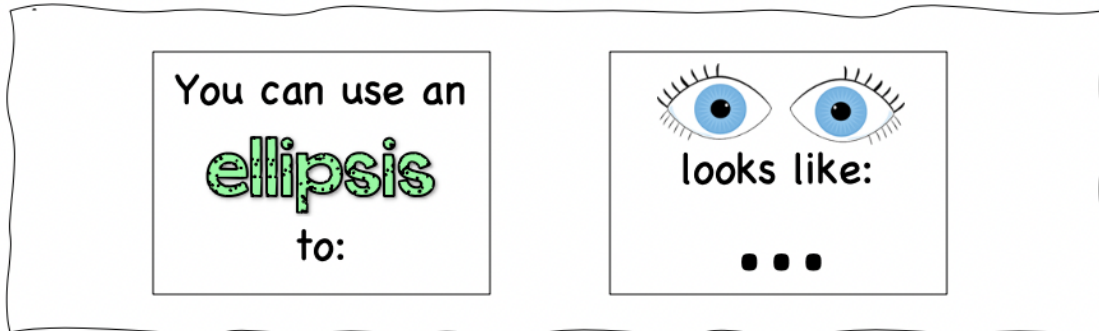


Can I borrow **twenty-five** cents?

My grandma just turned **one-hundred-and-one**
years old.

Ellipsis

Rules of Punctuation



1. Show an unfinished statement or to be continued



All of the sudden, the ground shook, and Eli heard a blood curdling scream...

2. Indicate a pause or interruption



"I... I... just don't understand how this could happen!"

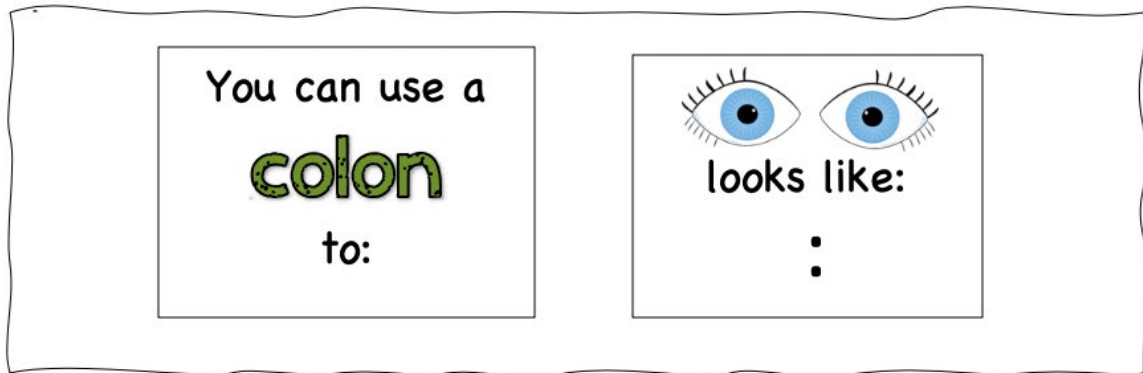
3. Show where words have been left out



All I heard was "Meet... 4 o'clock... bring gloves" then the phone went silent.

Colon

Rules of Punctuation



1. Begin a list



There was a choice of 3 different desserts: apple pie, chocolate torte and mango sorbet

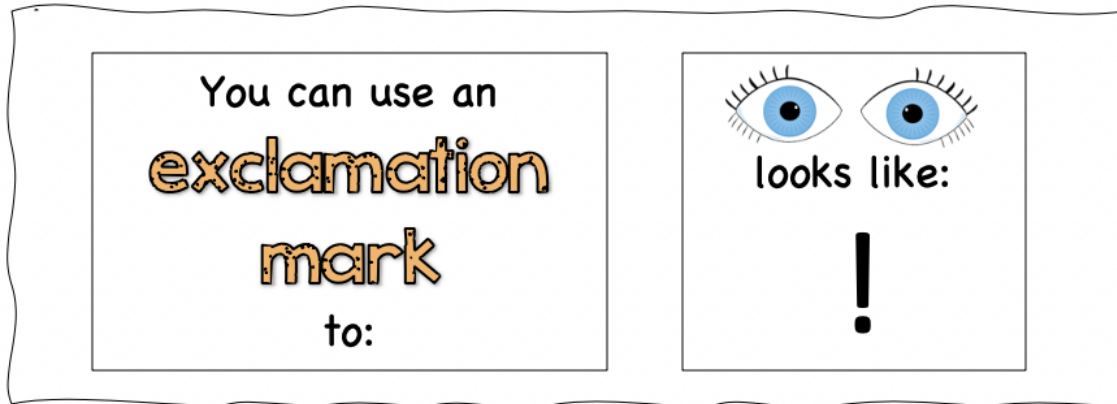
2. Express time



School gets out at 2:45 every day.

Exclamation Mark

Rules of Punctuation



1. Show strong emotions/Loud noises
(especially after interjections)



Yuck! Broccoli is disgusting!

2. Write words a person shouts



Watch out for that black ice!


3. Make a statement stronger



I'm so proud of you!

Question Mark

Rules of Punctuation

<p>You can use a question mark to:</p>	 <p>looks like: ?</p>
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1. Write or ask a question



Why is the sky blue?

Then I asked, "Shirley, did you finish your homework?"

"How are you today?"

