

Name _____

PARENTHESES: Use parentheses to inclose explanatory information, clarifying information, or thoughts expressed as an aside.

Mr. Bishop (principal) speaks at West G's graduation ceremony.

Pictures taken with a camera (an actual one, not a cellphone) are superior.

1. John Steinbeck 1902-1968 is the author of *Of Mice and Men*.
2. Last week's edition of *Whirlwind* our school newspaper contained a review of the play.
3. Cameos are commonly made from gems agate, onyx, and sardonyx that have layers of different colors.
4. The Rio Grande known as Rio Bravo in Mexico is the border between Texas and its neighbor to the south.
5. Opening a door for someone a kind gesture no matter who does it is considered a chivalrous act.

When the parenthetical info is a full sentence, capitalization/punctuation differ:

The world has changed much in the past century. (See the map on page 12.)

The world (see the map on page 12) has changed much in the past century.

The world (did you see the map on page 12?) has changed much in the past century.

6. A mother's love hers was fierce was a source of great comfort.
7. They played opera music. I covered my ears.
8. The wedding reception does it start at 3:00 begins way too early.
9. The rumor it started online was obviously intended to be hurtful.
10. The online rumor spread like wildfire. Why do people retweet this stuff?

BRACKETS: These function the same as parentheses but are for use within parentheses or quotations.

George Herman Ruth (commonly called “Babe Ruth” [1895-1948]) was a great baseball player.

The quote goes on to say that “no one doubted that she [Emily Dickinson] would grow gracefully into womanhood, make a good marriage, and settle into a village life.”

11. Jason Lloyd Gustsmith (aka JJ 1956-1999) was one of the best employees we ever had.

12. “You can’t take it your money with you.”

13. “There Will Come Soft Rains” (a novel written by Ray Bradbury 1920- 2012) foretells an ominous future.

Sic is a Latin term meaning “thus.” It is used to indicate that something incorrectly written is intentionally being left as it was in the original. **Sic** is usually italicized and always surrounded by brackets to indicate that it was not part of the original. Place [**sic**] right after the error.

She wrote, “I would rather not go to the party then [*sic*] to be seen wearing that outfit.”

“I know -- I am no longer interested. Please stop contacting me now. I will contact attorney general if you do not stop. Thsnks. [*sic*]”

14. “I would rather people say nothing to me than to express their pitty.”

15. Local councilman Joe Charley wrote, “We have found a sight for the new playground.”

Brackets can also be used to show a change has been made to an original quote, something you will find really useful when blending.

I think you will find comfort in FDR’s words because truly “the only thing [you] have to fear is fear itself.”

The internet drama TikTok says “[the buyer] is no longer interested.”

16. Using #15, we can amend/blend his quote using brackets: It has been reported that Joe Charely “has found a sight [*sic*] for the new playground.”

17. Try to blend this quote from LeBron James using brackets to amend it: “Cleveland, [he looked at the crowd] this is for you!”

DASHES: These are used to set off material for emphasis. In this sense, they are a lot like colons (in terms of “tell me more”), but they are intended to create a more dramatic effect.

We fished in the muddy stream-- a total waste of time.

You won't believe what I heard -- Cheryl was voted Homecoming Queen!

18. He was about to do something no one in his family had ever done graduate from college!

19. Upon discovering the errors-- all 124 of them-- the publisher recalled the book.

20. After months of deliberation, the jury returned the verdict Vera Willis was guilty.

Dashes should also be used to indicate an abrupt change in thought.

My phone -- oh no, I forgot to bring a charger -- is at 13%

Lincoln used dashes accordingly in the Gettysburg address: "But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate -- we cannot consecrate -- we cannot hallow this ground."

21. My surprise gift to Mom is going to be no, I'd better not tell you yet.

22. Next week I think it is Wednesday there will be a staff meeting.