



# Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

## Brackets to Show Parenthesis

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**Introductory Activity**

**Independent Focused Activity**

**Review Activity**

**Consolidation Activity**

**Assessment**



# Aim

- I can use brackets to show parenthesis.

# Success Criteria

- I can explain that round brackets belong around extra detail that has been added to a sentence.
- I can explain that the sentence would make sense without the information in the brackets.
- I can identify where brackets belong.
- I can create my own sentences which use brackets.
- I can explain different uses for round brackets.

# Introductory Activity

# Round Brackets



## Types of Brackets

There are two main kinds of brackets, both of which come in pairs – round brackets ( ) and square brackets [ ]. We are going to focus on round brackets.

## CAUTION!

A round bracket is also known as a parenthesis. Parenthesis can also mean a word, phrase or clause inserted into a sentence which is grammatically complete without it.

To help us to be clear, we will call ( ) round brackets and call the additional word or phrase a 'parenthesis'.

# Round Brackets



Parentheses are words, phrases or clauses inserted into sentences which are grammatically complete without them.

The information, which can be removed and the sentence still make sense, goes inside the brackets.

Example: Andrew (our best goalkeeper) saved the goal.



# Round Brackets for Extra Detail



Let's Have a Practise.

We will use the Brackets for Parenthesis Powerpoint Quiz to help us understand how to use brackets correctly.

Use your whiteboard to display your answer.





# Independent Focused Activity

# Quiet Parenthesis



Let's focus on those quiet parentheses. You use them to surround something that seems a bit out of place in the sentence—an aside, an extra detail, or an intrusion. You can add the information into the brackets to change the impact of the sentence.

Sentence without brackets – That morning he dressed in a grey tracksuit and trainers.

Aside - That morning (which was to change his life forever) he dressed in a tracksuit and trainers.

Extra detail - That morning he dressed in tracksuit (new, grey) and trainers.

An authorial intrusion – That morning he dressed in a tracksuit (he was as fit as a fiddle) and trainers.

# Quiet Parenthesis



## Quiet Parenthesis

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Let's focus on those quiet parentheses. You use them to surround something that seems a bit out of place in the sentence—an aside, an extra detail, or an intrusion.

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**Aside** - That morning (which was to change his life forever) he dressed in a grey tracksuit and trainers.

**Extra detail** - That morning he dressed in tracksuit (new, grey) and trainers.

**An authorial intrusion** – That morning he dressed in a tracksuit (he was as fit as a fiddle) and trainers.

Can you try some of these for the sentences below?

That afternoon the boy walked slowly home.

---

---

A woman looked at her watch.

---

---

He gazed out of the window.

---

---



## Quiet Parenthesis

I can use brackets to show parenthesis.

Let's focus on those quiet parentheses. Brackets can be used to surround something that seems a bit out of place in the sentence—an aside, an extra detail, or an intrusion.

You can add the information into the brackets to change the impact of the sentence.

**Sentence without brackets** – That morning he dressed in a grey tracksuit and trainers.

**Aside** - That morning (which was to change his life forever) he dressed in a grey tracksuit and trainers.

**Extra detail** - That morning he dressed in tracksuit (new, grey) and trainers.

**An authorial intrusion** – That morning he dressed in a tracksuit (he was as fit as a fiddle) and trainers.

Can you try some of these for the sentences below?

That afternoon the boy walked slowly home.

---

---

A woman looked at her watch.

---

---

He gazed out of the window.

---

---

Write two extra sentences which use brackets for different reasons.

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## Quiet Parenthesis

I can use brackets to show parenthesis.

Let's focus on those quiet parentheses. Brackets can be used to surround something that seems a bit out of place in the sentence—an aside, an extra detail, or an intrusion.

You can add the information into the brackets to change the impact of the sentence.

**Sentence without brackets** – That morning he dressed in a grey tracksuit and trainers.

**Aside** - That morning (which was to change his life forever) he dressed in a tracksuit and trainers.

**Extra detail** - That morning he dressed in tracksuit (new, grey) and trainers.

**An authorial intrusion** – That morning he dressed in a tracksuit (he was as fit as a fiddle) and trainers.

Can you try some of these for the sentences below?

That afternoon the boy walked slowly home.

---

---

A woman looked at her watch.

---

---

He gazed out of the window.

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Write three extra sentences which use brackets for different reasons.

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# Review Activity

# Other Uses for Round Brackets



Remember - Parentheses are words, phrases or clauses inserted into sentences which are grammatically complete without them. Here are some ways that information, which could be removed and the sentence still make sense, can be added using round brackets:

1. An extra detail – The passenger train (which was late) pulled up at the station.
2. To offer the reader an aside – I'm heading out (movie night), but I'll call you in the morning.
3. An authorial intrusion – Trainspotting (what a unique past time) was her favourite hobby.
4. A list which interrupts a sentence – The three busiest train stations in Great Britain (Waterloo, Victoria, Liverpool Street) are all based in London.
5. A date, or the birth and death of a person – William Tate (February 1798 – 20 April 1873) was the architect who designed Waterloo Bridge Station.
6. A Latin name used after a common name – The film 'My Fair Lady' opens with Eliza Doolittle selling violets (violas) outside Covent Garden.

# Other Uses for Round Brackets



## Other Uses for Brackets

I can use brackets to show parenthesis.

Remember round brackets can surround different information such as:

1. An extra detail – The passenger train (which was late) pulled up at the station.
2. To offer the reader an aside – I'm heading out (movie night!), but I'll call you in the morning.
3. An authorial intrusion – Train spotting (what a boring past time!) was her favourite hobby.
4. A list which interrupts a sentence – The three busiest train stations in Great Britain (Waterloo, Victoria, Liverpool Street) are all based in London.
5. A date, or the birth and death of a person – William Tate (February 1798 – 20 April 1873) was the architect who designed Waterloo Bridge Station.
6. A Latin name used after a common name – The film 'My Fair Lady' opens with Eliza Doolittle selling violets (violas) outside Covent Garden.

**Task -** Insert a number, based on the above information, next to each sentence to show the reason the bracket has been used.

Sentence	Number
The 30th anniversary of the eruption of Mount St. Helens (May 18th, 1980) brought back vivid memories of ash and darkness.	
He was heading out (to the cinema) but he would return the call in the morning.	
He was very surprised (and believe me it was pretty hard to surprise him!) at the unexpected party.	
The daffodil (narcissus) is a spring plant with yellow petals.	
Winston Churchill (1874-1965) was an important figure during the second world war.	
His coat was the colours of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet).	



# Consolidation Activity

# Having Fun with Brackets



Once you get the hang of using brackets to add extra details correctly you can have fun with them as long as you stick to the rule that the passage of writing still needs to make sense if you take the parenthesis away.

Why not try:

- Experimenting with opening the embedded clause in different ways – My neighbours (whom had lived in the house all their lives) objected to the plans for the new extension.
- Adding a complete sentence as a parenthesis – Today we went on a trip to York. (I had never been to York before.)

Note - The full stop follows the closing bracket except when the entire sentence falls within brackets as a separate sentence.

Write on your whiteboard some sentences which use brackets like the examples above.



# Assessment

# Other Uses for Round Brackets



Use all of the information you have learned and practised about brackets. Work on your own to complete the Mini Test Activity Sheet.

Name:  Date:

**Brackets to Show Parenthesis Mini Test**

1. **Tick** the sentence which shows the brackets put in the **correct** place for parenthesis. 1 mark

The new Russell Crow (movie, did you see Gladiator?) is coming out soon.

What was Nicolas thinking (when he crossed the road without looking?)

Are you thinking of asking Nicole (she's really nice) to the picnic?

.....

2. **Tick** the sentence which shows the brackets put in the **correct** place for parenthesis. 1 mark

(Presenting McGinnity's) newest snack bar healthy and wholesome available in most health stores now!

Presenting McGinnity's newest snack bar (healthy and wholesome) available in most health stores now!

Presenting (McGinnity's) newest snack bar healthy and wholesome available in most health stores now!

.....

3. **Re-write** the sentences using brackets to **include parenthesis**. 3 mark

The boy looked around the room.  
\_\_\_\_\_

The flowers blew in the breeze.  
\_\_\_\_\_

The capital city of England is a busy bustling place.  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# Other Uses for Round Brackets



Use all of the information you have learned and practised about expanded brackets. Work on your own to complete the Application Activity.

## Application Activity

I can use brackets to show parenthesis.

Remember - Parentheses are words, phrases or clauses inserted into sentences which are grammatically complete without them. Here are some ways that information, which could be removed and the sentence still make sense, can be added using round brackets:

1. An extra detail – The passenger train (which was late) pulled up at the station.
2. To offer the reader an aside – I'm heading out (movie night), but I'll call you in the morning.
3. An authorial intrusion – Trainspotting (what a unique past time) was her favourite hobby.
4. A list which interrupts a sentence – The three busiest train stations in Great Britain (Waterloo, Victoria, Liverpool Street) are all based in London.
5. A date, or the birth and death of a person – William Tate (February 1798-20 April 1873) was the architect who designed Waterloo Bridge Station.
6. A Latin name used after a common name – The film 'My Fair Lady' opens with Eliza Doolittle selling violets (violets) outside Covent Garden.

Can you write your own example sentence for each one?

1. An extra detail –
2. To offer the reader an aside –
3. An authorial intrusion –
4. A list which interrupts a sentence –
5. A date, or the birth and death of a person –
6. A Latin name used after a common name –

**Challenge – Try writing a character description of Darth Vader which uses brackets like the examples above.**

Darth Vader (born Anakin Skywalker) is a fictional character in the Star Wars universe.



# Aim



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