

Brackets for Extra Information



Brackets are used to **separate extra information** from the rest of a sentence. You always need a **pair** of brackets — never use one on its own.

Uncle Nigel (my dad's older brother) works on a farm.

The bit inside the brackets is the **extra information**.
The **rest** of the sentence would still **make sense** without it.

The extra information is sometimes called a parenthesis.

1 Put a tick next to the sentences that use brackets correctly.

Rhinos (an endangered species) mostly live in Africa.

Daniel was late to work yesterday (Tuesday).

The competition was won by Mr Fairclough (a train driver).

Chris was upset (at the result) they should have won.

Abi's dress pink with white flowers (was too long).

Our neighbour (Mrs Bewley) forgot to put the bins out.

2 In each of these sentences there is one bracket in the incorrect position. Cross it out and write a new bracket in the correct position.

Our friends James (and David) live across the road.

It was too hot (thirty-six degrees for the cat) to go outside.

(When we went fishing last weekend), I caught nothing.

The majority of the crowd (seventy-five) per cent wanted Gareth to win.

Jayne and Steve our (aunt and uncle) gave us a new sofa.

- 3 Each of these sentences only has one bracket. Put the missing one in the correct box.

The portrait (painted in 1839 cost Mr Dough a lot of money.

Fatima finished her knitting a woolly jumper).

There are eleven players (including a goalkeeper in a hockey team.

Rob's tie black with sparkly bits) had a hole in it.

- 4 Add brackets to the sentences below in the correct positions.

Jane and Barbara the identical twins work at the same shop .

Arthur Coddle an English author wrote several novels .

The café is closed on Mondays the manager's day off .

The poodle a breed of dog has lots of fur .

'The Rising Sea' my favourite book is about mermaids .

- 5 Complete each of these sentences by writing your own phrase in the gaps between the brackets.

The main course (.....) was delicious.

Hazel's dog (.....) likes to chase tennis balls.

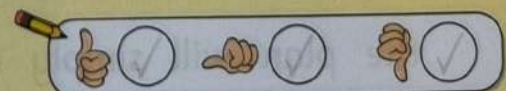
The workers (.....) didn't turn up for work.

Jenny's favourite toy (.....) was very old.

Rodney's car (.....) pulled up outside.

The supermarket (.....) is overrun by mice.

"I can use brackets to add extra information."



Dashes for Extra Information



A pair of dashes can also separate extra information in a sentence.

Mason — the builder — arrived before Nathan.

The dashes go around the extra bit of information.

- 1 Put a cross next to the sentence which has used dashes incorrectly. Then rewrite this sentence adding dashes correctly.

Gary left his hat — by accident — on top of the car.

We built — a sandcastle a big one — on the beach.

Alex's cat — the one with the stripy tail — eats biscuits.

The girls — especially Sophie and Ailsa — love the sunshine.

- 2 Add dashes correctly to the passage below.

Mr Miller the county's finest baker has announced his plans to bake Britain's first gingerbread hotel. The hotel four storeys high will open next summer. Six thousand people many from the local area have applied to stay at the hotel during the first month. Mr Miller's son also a baker will be in charge of the construction of the hotel. Two tonnes of ginger grown specially by Mr Miller will be used in the project. Tim Bury a famous architect thinks that the plan will simply not work.

- 3 One of the dashes in each sentence is in the wrong place. Rewrite each sentence putting it in the right place.

Moussa — and Sonny — the carpenters need some new tools.

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There is a box of chocolates — a big box in the — kitchen.

.....

Adam — forgot his lunch yet again — this morning.

.....

Hayley a famous comedian — is performing — tonight.

.....

- 4 Rewrite each of these sentences in the correct order using a pair of dashes.

my cat

likes to eat tuna

a tabby

.....

is in the opera

a talented singer

Lea's mum

.....

a type of ride

the waltzer

makes me dizzy

.....

"I know how to use a pair of dashes in a sentence."

