

Punctuation Marks



Mark	Name	When to use	Example
•	Full stop	At the end of sentences.	He was a mysterious man.
,	Comma	To join main and subordinate clauses. To list things	He was an angry man, he angrier than he had ever been.
?	Question mark	To indicate a question sentence.	How are you, Jennifer?
!	Exclamation mark	To show strong emotions.	Fantastic! Stop! It was freezing outside!
'	Apostrophe	For possession (before "s" for singular; after for plural) For abbreviation	Peter's house. The childrens' classroom. This book shouldn't be here.
()	Brackets	The separate explanation or afterthought in the main sentence.	The woman (Who had 5 children) is named Rashida and she is beautiful.
:	Colon	To introduce an explanation or expansion of the first part of the sentence.	Jimmy was like his mother: empathetic, lovable, and talkative. He was known for being what he was: a leader.
;	Semicolon	To join two closely linked sentences.	She was very exhausted; she drifted off to sleep in her bed.
...	Elipsis	To represent a trailing off of thought or hesitation.	If only it was a... Oh, never mind. I didn't... well, I think I... wait... I didn't mean to do it.