



Literacy at Hartford Public High School

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Using Punctuation

Punctuation marks are sometimes used to set off a word that is being used to identify another word. Some of the punctuation marks you may see used in this way are:

Commas	,	brackets	[]
dashes	-	single quotation marks	' '
parentheses	()	double quotation marks	“ ”

- Intensity - loudness or softness - depends on the extent or amplitude of vibrations.
- If you are ectomorphic (the slender type), you are likely to be good in such sports as track, tennis, and basketball.

As you read various texts with your students, encourage them to be aware of the many ways in which punctuation serves as an aid to understanding the author's point.

Using "or"

A word is sometimes identified by a synonym following the word "or."

- Vespers, or evening worship, can be heard at St. Matthew's Cathedral.
- Claustrophobia, or the fear of being enclosed, is more common than many people realize.

Using Examples

A word is sometimes identified by examples. These terms often introduce examples:

as like
for example for instance
such as

- Creatures such as the camel and the penguin are so highly specialized that they can only live in certain areas of the world.
- Camping paraphernalia such as tents, sleeping bags, and cooking equipment can range from very simple to quite complex.

Adjective Clauses

Adjective clauses sometimes identify words. They are introduced by the words:

that when where which
who whom

- The kiva, where Pueblo Indians hold their secret ceremonies, is entered by an opening in the roof.
- The "O" in many Irish names comes from the Gaelic word ua, which means "descended from".

Using Referents

Referents are words that refer back or forward to other words in the sentence of paragraph. Referents may be placed either before or after the word they are referring to.

- Although she liked the experience, she said that one bunjy jump was enough.
- After about three days looking everywhere for it, he finally gave up and bought a new pen.
- Farmers in north Canterbury are worried about the lack of rain and the effects on their livelihoods