

Homework/Extension

Step 4: Using Dashes to Mark Boundaries

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 6: (6G5.12) [Using dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses](#)

Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Varied Fluency)

Developing Identify the dashes used to add additional information in sentences with up to two clauses. For example: I have the most difficult exam tomorrow – biology.

Expected Identify the dashes used to add additional information in sentences with up to three clauses. For example: The exam – as Mr Ullman had said – covered everything they had studied that term, including plant biology.

Greater Depth Identify the dashes used to add additional information within multi-clause sentences. For example: The exam – as Mrs Khan had advised – covered everything they had studied that term, including plant biology (which Lucie found particularly hard).

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Varied Fluency)

Developing Circle the misplaced dash in sentences with up to two clauses. For example: I have the most difficult exam tomorrow – biology.

Expected Circle the misplaced dash in sentences with up to three clauses. For example: The exam – as Mr Ullman had said – covered everything they had studied that term, including plant biology.

Greater Depth Circle the misplaced dash/dashes within multi-clause sentences. For example: The exam – as Mrs Khan had advised – covered everything they had studied that term, including plant biology (which Lucie found particularly hard).

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Application and Reasoning)

Developing Explain how a dash has been used in sentences with up to two clauses. For example: I have the most difficult exam tomorrow – biology.

Expected Explain how a dash has been used in sentences with up to three clauses. For example: The exam – as Mr Ullman had said – covered everything they had studied that term, including plant biology.

Greater Depth Explain how a dash has been used within multi-clause sentences. For example: The exam – as Mrs Khan had advised – covered everything they had studied that term, including plant biology (which Lucie found particularly hard).

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

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Using Dashes to Mark Boundaries

1. Tick the sentence that has used dashes correctly to add additional information.

A. I plan to visit you some time in June – July next year.

B. “Believe you can and you’re halfway there.” – Theodore Roosevelt

C. Fido – my dog – loves to chase a ball.

D. Queen Victoria (1819 – 1901) was 18 years old when she was coronated.



VF
HW/Ext

2. Circle the dash which has been incorrectly added to each sentence below.

A. She wanted just one thing – on Christmas day – snow!

B. Olly Jones – my dad – was the best snooker player – I knew.

C. “It’s – it’s – a lion! Run!” – yelled Polly.



VF
HW/Ext

3. Abbie has written the sentence below.

You need to get to the station 5 – 10 minutes before your train is meant to leave.

She says,



I have included a dash in place of brackets.

Is she correct? Explain why.



AR
HW/Ext

Using Dashes to Mark Boundaries

4. Tick the sentences that have used dashes correctly to add additional information.

A. WWII (1939 – 1945) began when Germany, led by Hitler, invaded Poland.

B. The bus – the 521 – is due to arrive at 3pm, so we shouldn't be late.

C. "Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." – Dalai Lama

D. Almost instantly, Tara – my best friend – replied to my text.



VF
HW/Ext

5. Circle the dash which has been incorrectly added to each sentence below.

A. The African Bush elephant – is one of the largest land mammals alive today – weighing in at a whopping 6,000kg – and it grows to a height of 3.5 metres.

B. Each day, I work really hard – to prepare tasty and nutritional food – all they have to do is enjoy it!

C. After much discussion, Oskar, Kurt and Nygil – finally decided what they were going to order – burgers!



VF
HW/Ext

6. Thomas has written the sentence below.

The 2019 – 2020 academic year was the best for Mr Johnson-Smith, as his Year 6 class (of whom he was incredibly proud) performed brilliantly in their SATs tests.

He says,



I have included a dash to add additional information.

Is he correct? Explain why.



AR
HW/Ext

Using Dashes to Mark Boundaries

7. Tick the sentences that have used dashes correctly to add additional information.

A. "However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at." – Stephan Hawking

B. It's advisable to be at the airport 2 – 3 hours before your plane is due to depart in order to check bags (if needed) and prepare for your flight.

C. As I'm rather accident-prone – my friends will vouch for this – I was delighted to receive knee pads for my birthday (which I intend to wear whilst skating).

D. Without hesitation, Mr Harper – my wonderful next door neighbour – came racing to our aid and evicted the enormous man-eating spider from our house.



VF
HW/Ext

8. Circle the dash or dashes which has/have been incorrectly added to the sentences below.

A. Our lives – depended on our ability to crawl through a dark, spider-infested tunnel whilst dragging a heavy backpack – (weighing at least 15kg) behind us – I was doomed!

B. The lightening-quick cheetah – capable of speeds of up to 75mph – quickly caught up with the poor, unfortunate – gazelle (who was about to become a most delicious meal).

C. "I – I – I just wanted to say I'm sorry," muttered Kellie, who (still unable to look her best friend in the eye) stared – at the ground dejectedly.



VF
HW/Ext

9. Lara has written the sentence below.

We're going to the shops to buy a jumper (preferably a hoodie) and a pair of leggings – most of my clothes are too small for me now as I've recently had a growth spurt.

She says,



I have included a dash between an independent and a subordinate clause.

Is she correct? Explain why.



AR
HW/Ext

Homework/Extension

Using Dashes to Mark Boundaries

Developing

1. **C**
2. A. She wanted just one thing – on Christmas day – snow!
B. Olly Jones – my dad – was the best snooker player I knew.
C. “It’s – it’s – a lion! Run!” yelled Polly.
3. **Abbie is incorrect. She has used a dash between a range of numbers. Brackets would not be correct in the sentence.**

Expected

4. **B and D**
5. A. The African Bush elephant – is one of the largest land mammals alive today – weighing in at a whopping 6,000kg – and it grows to a height of 3.5 metres.
B. Each day, I work really hard – to prepare tasty and nutritional food – all they have to do is enjoy it!
C. After much discussion, Oskar, Kurt and Nygil – finally decided what they were going to order – burgers!
6. **Thomas is incorrect. He has used a dash between a range of dates.**

Greater Depth

7. **C and D**
8. A. Our lives – depended on our ability to crawl through a dark, spider-infested tunnel whilst dragging a heavy backpack – (weighing at least 15kg) behind us – I was doomed!
B. The lightening-quick cheetah – capable of speeds of up to 75mph – quickly caught up with the poor, unfortunate – gazelle (who was about to become a most delicious meal).
C. “I – I – I just wanted to say I’m sorry,” muttered Kellie, who (still unable to look her best friend in the eye) stared – at the ground dejectedly.
9. **Lara is incorrect. She has added a dash between two independent clauses.**