

## Year 6 – Autumn Block 1 – Ready to Write – Parenthesis

### **About This Resource:**

This PowerPoint has been designed to support your teaching of this small step. It includes a starter activity and an example of each question from the Varied Fluency and Application and Reasoning resources also provided in this pack. You can choose to work through all examples provided or a selection of them depending on the needs of your class.

### **National Curriculum Objectives:**

English Year 5: (5G5.9) [Using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis](#)

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

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## Year 6 – Autumn Block 1 – Ready to Write – Parenthesis

### Notes and Guidance:

- From Year 5, children should know that the term *parenthesis* means to add extra information within a sentence, using brackets, dashes or commas.
- Parenthesis can be used to interrupt the sentence or to clarify information within a sentence.
- Children should know that they need to use a pair of brackets to add additional information, while dashes and commas can be used in pairs or on their own.

### Focused Questions:

- What is parenthesis?
- What punctuation marks can be used to add parenthesis to a sentence?
- Can a bracket be used on its own or in a pair?
- Can a dash be used on its own or in a pair?
- Are the brackets used to add extra information or clarify information already in the sentence?
- Is the extra information a main clause, a relative clause or a subordinate clause?

# Step 4: Parenthesis

## Introduction

**Underline the extra information in each of the sentences below.**

**Miranda, who had grown even taller over the summer, stood in the back row for the class picture.**

**The dog, a Dalmatian named Fredders, won first place in the dog show on Sunday.**

**Spanish class, which is for experienced speakers only, takes place on Tuesday nights.**

## Introduction

Underline the extra information in each of the sentences below.

Miranda, who had grown even taller over the summer, stood in the back row for the class picture.

The dog, a Dalmatian named Fredders, won first place in the dog show on Sunday.

Spanish class, which is for experienced speakers only, takes place on Tuesday nights.



## Varied Fluency 1

**Underline the parenthesis in the sentence below.**

**The tall man – all 10 feet of him – sat despondently in a chair because he couldn't find any trousers to fit him.**

## Varied Fluency 1

Underline the parenthesis in the sentence below.

The tall man – all 10 feet of him – sat despondently in a chair because he couldn't find any trousers to fit him.

## Varied Fluency 2

The parenthesis in the sentence below is punctuated correctly.  
True or false?

The captain sipped his coffee black with no sugar (whilst entertaining the children) with tales of his adventures at sea.



## Varied Fluency 2

The parenthesis in the sentence below is punctuated correctly.  
True or false?

The captain sipped his coffee black with no sugar (whilst entertaining the children) with tales of his adventures at sea.

**False, it should be: The captain sipped his coffee (black with no sugar) whilst entertaining the children with tales of his adventures at sea.**

### Varied Fluency 3

Insert commas around the parenthesis in the sentence below.

The dragon flew up into the sky which was blue and cloudless before swooping down to reign terror on the village below.

### Varied Fluency 3

Insert commas around the parenthesis in the sentence below.

The dragon flew up into the sky, which was blue and cloudless, before swooping down to reign terror on the village below.

## Varied Fluency 4

**Rewrite the sentence below using brackets to punctuate the parenthesis.**

**The Birmingham to London train which was already running late was held up further by the unexpected snowfall.**

## Varied Fluency 4

**Rewrite the sentence below using brackets to punctuate the parenthesis.**

**The Birmingham to London train which was already running late was held up further by the unexpected snowfall.**

**The Birmingham to London train (which was already running late) was held up further by the unexpected snowfall.**



## Application 1

Insert suitable parenthesis to add extra information to the sentence below.

We finally got to enjoy the film ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) after enduring 40 minutes of nonsense adverts.

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**Insert suitable parenthesis to add extra information to the sentence below.**

**We finally got to enjoy the film ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) after enduring 40 minutes of nonsense adverts.**

**Various answers; for example: We finally got to enjoy the film (an action-packed adventure) after enduring 40 minutes of nonsense adverts.**

## Application 2

Using brackets, commas or dashes, combine the sentences below so that they include parenthesis. You may need to omit or change words.

The plane powered down the runway as it prepared for take-off. The plane was full of passengers and luggage.

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Using brackets, commas or dashes, combine the sentences below so that they include parenthesis. You may need to omit or change words.

The plane powered down the runway as it prepared for take-off. The plane was full of passengers and luggage.

**Various answers, for example: The plane – full of passengers and luggage – powered down the runway as it prepared for take-off.**

## Reasoning 1

Has parenthesis been used correctly in the sentence below?  
Explain why.

**The snowmobiles each weighing over 500lbs, slid cautiously, over the dangerously thin ice sheets.**



## Reasoning 1

**Has parenthesis been used correctly in the sentence below?  
Explain why.**

**The snowmobiles each weighing over 500lbs, slid cautiously, over the dangerously thin ice sheets.**

**No, because...**

## Reasoning 1

Has parenthesis been used correctly in the sentence below?  
Explain why.

**The snowmobiles each weighing over 500lbs, slid cautiously, over the dangerously thin ice sheets.**

**No, because if 'slid cautiously' was removed from the sentence, it would no longer make sense.**

**The sentence should be: 'The snowmobiles, each weighing over 500lbs, slid cautiously over the dangerously thin ice sheets.'**