

Year 5 – Spring Block 1 – Parenthesis – Using Brackets to Indicate 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](#)

Terminology for pupils:

- English Year 5: (5G5.9) [parenthesis](#)
- English Year 5: (5G5.9) [bracket](#)

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

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Year 5 – Spring Block 1 – Parenthesis – Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

Notes and Guidance

- Once children can recognise *parenthesis* they can move on to using it.
- This step looks at using brackets to indicate *parenthesis*. Children should be able to demarcate *parenthesis* in different positions within a sentence, remembering to surround the *parenthesis* with brackets both mid-sentence and if positioned at the end of a sentence.
- Children should know that if the parenthesis is added at the end of the sentence, the closing bracket must come before the punctuation at the end of the sentence, for example: My dad bought a new car (as his old one broke down). Are you coming for dinner (roast beef and Yorkshire puddings)?

Focused Questions

- Insert brackets into this sentence to demarcate parenthesis.
- Have these brackets been used to indicate parenthesis correctly?
- Could this parenthesis be positioned differently within the sentence?

Step 2: Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

Introduction

Which of the following sentences use punctuation to show parenthesis?

- 1. On Wednesday afternoon, we are having a special picnic on the field.**
- 2. Our house, next to the post office, has a blue door.**
- 3. There are lots of games – including your favourite – in the cupboard.**
- 4. Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune are all planets in our solar system.**
- 5. My auntie, who was born in Japan, has spent many years working in foreign countries.**

Introduction

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Varied Fluency 1

Insert brackets into these sentences to demarcate parenthesis.

The suspicious box marked with a warning symbol was impossible to open.

Xand his heart beating like a drum took one cautious step onto the frozen waves.

Varied Fluency 1

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The suspicious box marked with a warning symbol was impossible to open.

The suspicious box (marked with a warning symbol) was impossible to open.

Xand his heart beating like a drum took one cautious step onto the frozen waves.

Xand (his heart beating like a drum) took one cautious step onto the frozen waves.

Varied Fluency 2

Add parenthesis to the sentence below.

We have orders to watch him (_____) but not interfere.

Varied Fluency 2

Add parenthesis to the sentence below.

We have orders to watch him (_____) but not interfere.

Possible answers:

We have orders to watch him **(he is a dangerous man)** but not interfere.

We have orders to watch him **(for his own safety)** but not interfere.

We have orders to watch him **(and the rest of his family)** but not interfere.

Varied Fluency 3

Tick the parenthesis that could fit where the arrow is pointing.

The bones are probably forty thousand years old.



(found on the beach)	
(which are forty thousand years old)	
(ancient)	

Varied Fluency 3

Tick the parenthesis that could fit where the arrow is pointing.

The bones are probably forty thousand years old.



(found on the beach)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(which are forty thousand years old)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ancient)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Varied Fluency 4

Add parenthesis to the sentences below and demarcate using brackets.

The environment in the arctic circle is harsh.

There was no guarantee that they would survive the night.

Varied Fluency 4

Add parenthesis to the sentences below and demarcate using brackets.

The environment in the arctic circle is harsh.

The environment in the arctic circle (the name given to the region around the north pole) is harsh.

There was no guarantee that they would survive the night.

There was no guarantee that they would survive the night (the temperature had already dropped below zero).

Reasoning 1

Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

The stomach which sits below the lungs (digests food using enzymes and gastric acid).

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The brackets are incorrect...

Reasoning 1

Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

The stomach which sits below the lungs (digests food using enzymes and gastric acid).

The brackets are incorrect because the main clause outside the brackets does not make sense on its own. They should surround 'which sits below the lungs'.

Reasoning 2

Look at the sentences below. What is the same? What is different?

The equipment (Bunsen burner, tripod and heatproof mat) for the experiment needs to be assembled following the instructions.

The equipment for the experiment (investigating friction) needs to be assembled following the instructions.

Reasoning 2

Look at the sentences below. What is the same? What is different?

The equipment (Bunsen burner, tripod and heatproof mat) for the experiment needs to be assembled following the instructions.

The equipment for the experiment (investigating friction) needs to be assembled following the instructions.

Possible answer:

The main clause and the use of brackets are the same, but...

Reasoning 2

Look at the sentences below. What is the same? What is different?

The equipment (Bunsen burner, tripod and heatproof mat) for the experiment needs to be assembled following the instructions.

The equipment for the experiment (investigating friction) needs to be assembled following the instructions.

Possible answer:

The main clause and the use of brackets are the same, but the parenthesis gives different additional information (about the equipment and about the experiment).

Application 1

Rewrite the sentence below to change the position of the parenthesis. If necessary, change any words so the sentence makes grammatical sense.

The restaurant had a variety of dishes on the menu (including Italian, French and English food) to suit everyone's tastes.

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Rewrite the sentence below to change the position of the parenthesis. If necessary, change any words so the sentence makes grammatical sense.

The restaurant had a variety of dishes on the menu (including Italian, French and English food) to suit everyone's tastes.

The restaurant (serving Italian, French and English food) had a variety of dishes on the menu to suit everyone's tastes.