

Application and Reasoning

Step 2: Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

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](#)

Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Reasoning)

Developing Explain if the brackets have been used accurately for parenthesis added to a single clause sentence.

Expected Explain if the brackets have been used accurately for parenthesis added to a multi-clause sentence.

Greater Depth Explain if the brackets have been used accurately for parenthesis added to a multi-clause sentence, where subordinate clauses are also used.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Reasoning)

Developing Explain similarities and differences between single clause sentences which use brackets to demarcate added parenthesis.

Expected Explain similarities and differences between multi-clause sentences which use brackets to demarcate added parenthesis.

Greater Depth Explain similarities and differences between multi-clause sentences (where subordinate clauses are also used) which use brackets to demarcate added parenthesis.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Application)

Developing Change the position of the parenthesis added to a single clause sentence.

Expected Change the position of the parenthesis added to a multi-clause sentence.

Greater Depth Change the position of the parenthesis added to a multi-clause sentence, where subordinate clauses are also used. Parenthesis can be moved to more than one other position.

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

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**Using Brackets to Indicate
Parenthesis**

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Parenthesis**

1a. Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

I promise to behave today
(yesterday I was in trouble).



R

1b. Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

Laura a secret agent (needed to
complete the mission.)



R

2a. Look at the two sentences below.

Henry the eighth (the second tudor
monarch) had six wives.

Henry the eighth had six wives
(three of them were called
Catherine).

What is the same? What is different?



R

2b. Look at the two sentences below.

Paul (desperate to escape) caught
his breath.

Paul caught his breath (desperate
to escape).

What is the same? What is different?



R

3a. Rewrite the sentence below to
change the position of the parenthesis.

The biscuits (even the unbaked
ones) had disappeared!

If necessary, change any words so it still
makes grammatical sense.



A

3b. Rewrite the sentence below to
change the position of the parenthesis.

The hideous creature (ready to
attack) sharpened its claws.

If necessary, change any words so it still
makes grammatical sense.



A

Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

4a. Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

In our solar system, Mars known (as the red planet) is smaller than Earth and is the fourth planet from the sun.



R

4b. Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

There was probably an innocent explanation for what had happened to the car (it had been scratched all down the side.



R

5a. Look at the two sentences below.

Jake's father (who is a nurse) told us about his occupation at the community hospital.

Jake's father told us about his occupation at the community hospital (where he is a nurse).

What is the same? What is different?



R

5b. Look at the two sentences below.

Sam played for Girlington United and was an excellent footballer (possibly as good as Alyx).

Sam (who was possibly as good as Alyx) played for Girlington United and was an excellent footballer.

What is the same? What is different?



R

6a. Rewrite the sentence below to change the position of the parenthesis.

The principal ballerina (who had achieved a lot during her career) was incredibly ambitious and determined.

If necessary, change any words so it still makes grammatical sense.



A

6b. Rewrite the sentence below to change the position of the parenthesis.

The only reasonable thing left to do (she had tried everything else) was apologise.

If necessary, change any words so it still makes grammatical sense.



A

Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

7a. Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

(After an awkward silence), she looked up at him with a mischievous grin she knew she was in trouble.



R

7b. Have the brackets been used accurately to demarcate parenthesis? Explain how you know.

She gripped the steering wheel (white with fear, as the vehicle plunged down the steep hill) into the valley below.



R

8a. Look at the two sentences below.

Emie recognised the figure (his face was familiar) though she wasn't sure where she had seen him before.

Emie (feeling uneasy) recognised the figure though she wasn't sure where she had seen him before .

What is the same? What is different?



R

8b. Look at the two sentences below.

Through the haze, the snow began to fall (ornate crystals visible in the lamp light) which covered the land in a white blanket.

Through the mist, the snow began to fall which covered the land in a white blanket (an ornate drape visible in the lamp light).

What is the same? What is different?



R

9a. Rewrite the sentence below to change the position of the parenthesis.

The museum was the first of its kind in Greece but the collection (mainly consisting of Ancient artefacts) was transferred to Italy in 1926.

If necessary, change any words so it still makes grammatical sense.



A

9b. Rewrite the sentence below to change the position of the parenthesis.

Then the hunter came forward (revealing his identity) and stood before them, and the mystery was solved.

If necessary, change any words so it still makes grammatical sense.



A

Application and Reasoning Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

Developing

1a. The brackets are correct because they surround the extra information.

2a. Various answers, for example:

The main clause and the punctuation used to demarcate the parenthesis are the same, but the additional information provided is different.

3a. The biscuits had disappeared (even the unbaked ones)!

Expected

4a. The brackets are positioned incorrectly because 'known' should be included within the brackets.

5a. Various answers, for example:

The parenthesis still provides us with information about his job, but the position and the wording of the parenthesis have changed.

6a. The principal ballerina was incredibly ambitious and determined (she had achieved a lot during her career).

Greater Depth

7a. The brackets are incorrect because they should surround 'she knew she was in trouble'.

8a. Various answers, for example:

The main and subordinate clauses remain the same, but the parenthesis gives extra information about different people (the figure and Emie).

9a. Various answers, for example:

The museum (mainly consisting of Ancient artefacts) was the first of its kind in Greece but the collection was transferred to Italy in 1926.

Application and Reasoning Using Brackets to Indicate Parenthesis

Developing

1b. The brackets are incorrect because they should surround 'a secret agent'.

2b. Various answers, for example:

The sentence and the punctuation used to demarcate the parenthesis are the same, but the position of the parenthesis has changed.

3b. The hideous creature sharpened its claws (it was ready to attack).

Expected

4b. The brackets are incorrect because there should be another bracket before the full stop. Brackets are always in pairs.

5b. Various answers, for example:

The parenthesis still compares Sam to Alyx, but the position and the wording of the parenthesis have changed.

6b. The only reasonable thing left to do was apologise (she had tried everything else).

Greater Depth

7b. The first bracket is correct but the second bracket is incorrect because it should be after 'fear'.

8b. Various answers, for example:

The main clause and the use of brackets to demarcate parenthesis are the same, but the additional information provided has changed.

9b. Various answers, for example:

Then the hunter came forward and stood before them (revealing his identity), and the mystery was solved.