

Mastering Parenthesis: Adding Extra Detail!

Unlock the secrets of sentences with Max the Math-loving Monkey and Pip the Word-collecting Caterpillar!

- **Parenthesis is a word, phrase, or clause inserted into a sentence as an explanation or afterthought.**
- **You can use a pair of commas to show parenthesis: 'The monkey, who was very hungry, ate a banana.'**
- **Brackets (parentheses) are often used to add extra detail: 'Max (our monkey friend) loves solving puzzles.'**
- **Dashes can also be used for parenthesis—they add a stronger sense of interruption or excitement!**
- **A good way to check your work is to read the sentence without the extra information; it should still be grammatically correct.**
- **Always remember to use the same punctuation mark at the beginning and the end of the parenthesis (e.g., two commas, two brackets, or two dashes).**

Did you know? Did you know? Parenthesis comes from a Greek word meaning 'to put in alongside'. Think of it as adding a little 'secret' or extra detail to a sentence without changing its main meaning. If you removed the part in parenthesis, your sentence would still make perfect sense!

Key vocabulary: Parenthesis · Brackets · Commas · Dashes · Clause · Relative · Information