

Mastering Punctuation with Pip

Learning objective: To identify and apply Year 6 punctuation marks correctly to improve writing clarity and flow.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of punctuation. Read the term on the front, then flip to reveal the definition and an example provided by Pip the bookworm.

Semi-colon

Used to join two independent clauses that are closely related in meaning. Example: Pip loves reading; he spends every afternoon in the library.

Colon

Used to introduce a list, an explanation, or a quotation. Example: Pip gathered his favourite things: a book, a bookmark, and a cup of tea.

Dash

Used to add extra information or create a dramatic pause. Example: The library was quiet—perfectly silent—as Pip began to read.

Comma for list

Used to separate items in a list. Example: Pip bought ink, paper, pens, and a new notebook.

Parentheses (Brackets)

Used to add extra information that is not essential to the main sentence. Example: Pip (who was feeling very tired) curled up on his leaf.

Hyphen

Used to join words together to create compound adjectives. Example: Pip is a well-known reader in the forest.

Possessive Apostrophe

Used to show that something belongs to someone or something. Example: That is Pip's favourite book.

Ellipsis

A set of three dots used to show a pause, hesitation, or that words have been omitted. Example: Pip looked at the bookshelf... and sighed.

Inverted Commas

Used to show direct speech. Example: "I love stories," said Pip.

Comma for fronted adverbials

Used after a word or phrase that describes when, where, or how something happens at the start of a sentence. Example: Slowly, Pip turned the page.