



Punctuation: **Asides**

Sometimes, we want to include some extra information in a sentence. We can often section this off with punctuation, so that it becomes an aside. Look at the examples below:

Punctuation mark	Example	When we use it
comma ,	The man, who looked like he was about to be sick, turned away.	To section off a subordinate clause – extra information which is not necessary to the sentence.
dash –	Sarah – by far the best player – is definitely invited.	To add an emphasising phrase to a sentence.
brackets ()	I went to the party (although I hadn't told my mum I was going).	To give extra information which is related to the sentence but which is not as important.

Now, can you rewrite these sentences, inserting either commas, dashes or brackets where they are needed?

1. The cat who had been wailing all day was finally let into the house.

2. I am going yes I really am and you can't stop me.

3. The house was lovely although I have to admit I didn't like their colour scheme.

4. Have you heard about the rumour which was started by Sally Mathews at the weekend that Tom and Arya are going out?

5. I went to the kitchen although I was tired and turned off the oven.

Finally, write your own sentence including either commas, dashes or brackets.



Punctuation: **Asides - Answers**

Now, can you rewrite these sentences, inserting either commas, dashes or brackets where they are needed?

1. The cat who had been wailing all day was finally let into the house.

The cat, who had been wailing all day, was finally let into the house.

2. I am going yes I really am and you can't stop me.

I am going – yes I really am – and you can't stop me.

3. The house was lovely although I have to admit I didn't like their colour scheme.

The house was lovely (although I have to admit I didn't like their colour scheme).

4. Have you heard about the rumour which was started by Sally Mathews at the weekend that Tom and Arya are going out?

Have you heard about the rumour (which was started by Sally Mathews at the weekend) that Tom and Arya are going out?

5. I went to the kitchen although I was tired and turned off the oven.

I went to the kitchen, although I was tired, and turned off the oven.