



PUNCTUATION POINT

Capital Letter Court

Exit here to check your use of capital letters.

- Capital letters are used at the beginning of sentences. Have you remembered all of them?
- Capital letters are also used for proper nouns. (*e.g. names of specific people or places*) Have you checked them all?
- Have you used capital letters at the beginning of words in a title?
- Check that there are no stray capital letters used where they shouldn't be.

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Full Stop Farm

Exit here to check your use of full stops.

- Full stops are used at the end of sentences. Have you included all of them?
- Read your sentences aloud. This helps you to see where you are pausing and where full stops may need to go.
- Have you used commas where full stops should go?

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Comma Cathedral

Exit here to check your use of commas.

- Commas are a weaker pause in a sentence. They are used in the following ways:
- To separate words in a list - *I packed eggs, bacon, cheese and bread.*
- To separate clauses - *I came to see you, but you were out.*
- *As I left the house, it started raining.*

(Visit Parenthesis Palace for more information.)

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Dialogue District

Exit here to check your use of inverted commas.

- Inverted commas are used for direct speech. Remember - inverted commas trap the spoken words.
(e.g. "It's over there," claimed Fred.)
- Before you close the speech, there should be a comma, a question mark, an exclamation mark or, in some cases, a full stop. These go inside the inverted commas.
("What!" shouted Sam.) (Claire moaned, "I'm fine.")

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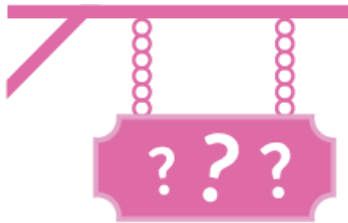


Apostrophe Abbey

Exit here to check your use of apostrophes.

- Apostrophes are used in the following ways:
- To show where letters have been omitted in contractions - *can't*, *wouldn't*, *you've*.
- To show possession - *the girl's hat (singular)*, *the girls' hats (plural)*
- Check your use of apostrophes.

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Question Quarter

Exit here to check your use of question marks.

- Question marks are used at the end of questions. Look out for question words such as 'how', 'who', 'when', 'where', 'why', 'which', and 'what' to help you find them.
- Could you have included rhetorical questions?

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Exclamation Eye

Exit here to check your use of exclamation marks.

- Exclamation marks are used for exclamation sentences - e.g. *What a lovely day it is! How strange that was!*
- Don't over-do it. Only one exclamation mark is needed for each exclamation sentence.
- Check your use of exclamation marks.

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Parenthesis Palace

Exit here to check your use of parenthesis.

- Parenthesis is extra information added into a sentence. Commas, brackets or dashes can be used to separate this information.
The car, a red car, sped down the road.
The car (a red car) sped down the road.
The car - a red car - sped down the road.
- Check your use of parenthesis.

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Colon College

Exit here to check your use of colons.

- Colons can be used in the following ways:
 - To introduce a list. (*Dave packed: cheese, eggs, milk and*
 - To link two related sentences. The second sentence helps to explain the first.
(*We found the keys: Dad had moved them.*)
- Check your use of colons. Have you missed opportunities to use them?

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Semicolon Circus

Exit here to check your use of semicolons.

- Semicolons can be used in the following ways:
 - To separate items in a list if the items are longer phrases. (*e.g. Claire noticed: a large rhino; a very unhappy chimp; and a bright pink flamingo.*)
 - To replace a full stop in order to link two related sentences. The sentences could stand alone as their own sentences. (*e.g. I have a test tomorrow; I can't go out tonight.*)

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PUNCTUATION POINT

Hyphen Hill

Exit here to check your use of hyphens.

- Hyphens are small dashes that are used to join two words to make a single word or expression (e.g. *test-drive*, *sister-in-law*, *well-cooked*.)
- Check your use of hyphens.