

Read and Analyze

Hyphens, Parentheses, and Dashes

Eng. I
Lesson 1
Day 1

Unit 7: Lesson 79

- a. The first successful moon landing (the culmination of the *Apollo 11* mission) took place in 1969.
- b. *Apollo 12*, the follow-up mission, was also a success.

In which sentence are parentheses () used to enclose information that explains an idea? _____

In which sentence is a hyphen used to join a word pair that precedes a noun? _____

Hyphens and **parentheses** are used to make writing clearer. Use a **hyphen** to

- separate the syllables in a word when you must break a word at the end of a line of text.
- link the parts of some compound words, such as *behind-the-scenes*.
- link some word pairs or groups of words that precede a noun and act as an adjective, such as *best-selling novel*.
- link the parts of numbers (written as words) between twenty-one and ninety-nine.

Use **parentheses** to set off an explanation or example.

See Handbook Section 9

Practice

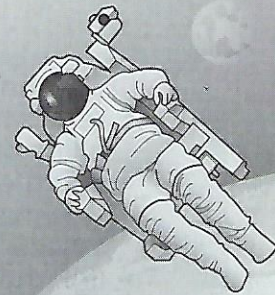
Write *C* each sentence or sentence pair in which hyphens and parentheses are used correctly. Cross out hyphens and parentheses that are used incorrectly. If you are not sure whether a hyphen should be used to link parts of a compound word or adjective phrase, check a dictionary.

1. (On April 15, 1970) Ed Smylie was at home watching television when he learned of an explosion on board *Apollo 13*. _____
2. Smylie knew he was needed (at the Houston Space Center) as soon as possible. _____
3. He oversaw a top-notch team of engineers in NASA's crew systems division. _____
4. He soon discovered that (the spacecraft) was losing oxygen, electricity, light, and water. _____
5. There was also a problem with the square lithium hydroxide canisters. (The canisters, which were used to cleanse carbon dioxide from the air, had square openings.) _____
6. Smylie and his staff had to find a way to make the square canisters compatible with the openings in the command module (which were round). _____
7. Also, they had to use only materials available on board the spacecraft to repair the problems. (If they did not succeed, the crew would perish within a day or two.) _____
8. The engineers devised a rough-and-ready contraption out of plastic bags, cardboard, and duct tape. _____
9. After testing their invention, they guided (the astronauts) to find the same materials on board-the-spacecraft. _____
10. Their around-the-clock efforts paid off: the astronauts made it home safely. _____

Apply

Add hyphens or parentheses where they belong.

11. Duct tape is not what comes to mind when you think of space age repair tools.
12. Still, duct tape has helped other astronauts besides those on board *Apollo 13*. In one instance, astronauts used it to do quick and dirty repairs to their air filtering system.
13. In 2006 the shuttle *Discovery* was on a 13 day mission to the International Space Station.
14. The latches on the jet-propelled backpack belonging to an astronaut Piers Sellers somehow came loose.
15. The backpack used only in emergency situations allows an astronaut to move backward or forward.
16. Mission Control guided the astronauts to make a quick fix repair that allowed Sellers to take the planned spacewalk.

**Reinforce**

See Handbook Section 9

A dash is a punctuation mark used to signal a pause. A dash is longer than a hyphen. Think about how dashes are used in the sentences in the left-hand column. Then draw a line from each sentence to the rule it matches.

This was the moment I had been waiting for—the spacewalk.

I looked at the distant blue orb—Earth was 220 miles away—and wished my friends could see me.

Then I recalled the incident at Mission Control. If only—

Use dashes to set off a phrase or an independent clause that interrupts an otherwise complete sentence.

Use a dash to mark an interrupted or unfinished sentence.

Use a dash to stress one or more words at the end of a sentence.

On the lines below, write your own example for each rule about the use of dashes.

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____