

Read and Analyze

Signaling a Pause

Eng. I
Lesson 3 Day 3

Unit 7: Lesson 81

The mountain pine beetle—a terribly destructive pest—has killed many millions of trees in the West in recent years. The Lipson family, Montana landowners and operators of a resort, had more than 10,000 beetle-killed pine trees on their land. The Lipsons needed to remove the dead trees to fight the infestation and reduce fire danger, but felling and hauling away so many trees would have been an unmanageable expense . . . unless there was some way to make money selling the lumber.

What punctuation mark is used to signal pauses in the first sentence?

_____ What punctuation mark indicates pauses in the second sentence? _____

What punctuation mark signals a long pause in the third sentence? _____

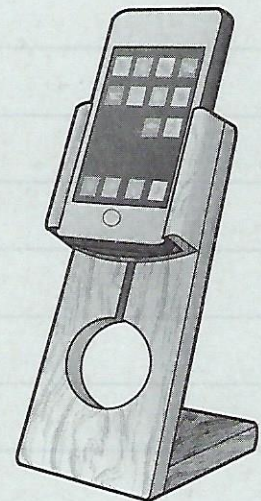
Three types of punctuation marks can be used to signal **pauses**: **Long dashes** can signal pauses before and after an authorial comment or an explanatory phrase in a sentence. A long dash can also be used to signal a sudden interruption in a statement. **Commas** can be used to signal thoughtful pauses between groups of words. An **ellipsis** can be used in a sentence to indicate a long pause.

See Handbook Sections 8, 9

Practice

Read each sentence quietly to yourself. Circle each punctuation mark that indicates where you should pause.

1. The Lipsons first had to identify infested pines—an easy task, since their needles turned burnt red—and then cut and haul away both the damaged trees and the healthy ones growing near them.
2. This process stopped the infestation in their forest . . . but it left them with a huge amount of beetle-damaged timber.
3. Larry Lipson was determined to find a use—a use that would generate income—for these felled trees.
4. He learned that lumber from beetle-killed pine trees was as strong as any other pine lumber, as long as it had not begun to rot.
5. Larry Lipson sent a small amount of his timber to a sawmill to be cut into boards . . . and what came back certainly surprised him.
6. The wood had an almost-iridescent blue tinge to it which, he later learned, was produced by a fungus carried by the beetles.
7. The Lipson family decided to use this lovely lumber to make accessories for tablets and smartphones—primarily stands and backs.
8. They started a company called Bad Beetle—a name chosen to raise people's awareness of the beetle problem—and set up a website to sell their products.
9. Several other companies now produce a range of products, from kitchen cabinets to tree houses, using the blue-tinged wood.
10. You may have heard the saying, "If you're given lemons, make lemonade," and that is what Larry Lipson and other entrepreneurs are doing with timber formerly regarded as worthless.



This smartphone stand is made out of lumber from trees killed by the mountain pine beetle.

Apply

Add long dashes, commas, and ellipses where they are needed in these sentences.

11. Scrap tires too worn for road use were formerly thrown into landfills.
12. The large number of tires discarded in America almost 300 million a year at present makes it imperative that good uses for these items be discovered.
13. Scientists and engineers as well as officials in the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development have developed a wide array of new uses.
14. Almost half of America's scrap tires are now burned as fuel a beneficial use, since tires produce more energy and fewer emissions than coal produces.
15. Tires are also used in civil engineering projects from erosion barriers for bridge piers to noise-absorbing walls alongside highways.
16. In addition, scrap tires are used to manufacture rubberized asphalt for paving roads roads that become remarkably smooth and quiet with their new surface.
17. One project now underway sponsored by the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy involves developing treatments for the rubber in scrap tires.
18. This rubber after being treated can be used to make gaskets, sealants, and adhesives.

Reinforce

Research some other ways that artists and communities have reused old tires. Write a paragraph about your findings. Use punctuation marks to signal pauses in your paragraph.
