

Take the quiz to discover which punctuation mark you are. Then, spend fifteen minutes using it! Write a piece that includes your punctuation mark as many times as possible. Let us know your punctuation mark and share your practice on our

We can break down the punctuation marks into five categories, as follows:

This one is probably the most straightforward. Also referred to as a full stop, the period denotes the end of a sentence. A full sentence is considered as one that is complete and declarative.

example of a period at the end of a sentence:

The dog ran under the fence.

Periods are also used in abbreviations, such as in names or titles. Here are examples of how to use a period in abbreviations:

Mr. H. Potter opened his front door.

A question mark also ends a sentence; however, it ends a sentence that is a direct question.

How do you like your eggs?

t?

Generally, a question mark also denotes a shift in tone in a sentence if it is being read out loud, so this is something to take note of. Typically sentences that are questions begin with what, how, when, where, why, or who BUT you may also infuse RHETORICAL QUESTIONS or HYPOPHORA (see rhetorical devices or join a session on argumentation writing). An exclamation point or exclamation mark is also used at the end of a sentence when that sentence expresses an intense emotion. The expression can be a variety of things, from excitement, disgust, anger, joy, or anything else. Exclamation points are meant to add emphasis to a sentence. Use sparingly in academic writing.

yelled.

Commas are used to insert a pause into a sentence. The purpose of the pause can be for different reasons, such as to separate ideas, phrases, or even alter the structure of a sentence.

Commas have a few different uses. Commas are used for a direct address, such as:

Joe, it was nice to see you again.

He went to the library, and then he went out for lunch.

Commas can also be used to list items in a sentence:

She went shopping and bought shoes, a dress, two shirts, and a pair of pants.

Commas are one of the most misused punctuation points, and its misuse often results in a comma splice. A comma splice is when you join two independent clauses with a comma instead of a conjunction. For example:

Instead of using a comma, the sentence should read:

Oxford commas are often debated within academics and the English language, and using one often comes down to preference. An Oxford comma is when a final comma is placed on the last item of a list. For example:

He likes to eat fruits, cake, vegetables, and pasta.

A colon has a few primary uses. One way to use it is when introducing something, such as a quote, an example, a series, or an explanation.

She took four classes last semester: history, biology, arts, and economics.

A colon can also be used to link two independent clauses if the second clause clarifies or completes the first one. For example:

Quotation marks are used to denote text, speech, or words spoken by someone else. It is also used to indicate dialogue.

quote within a quote.

## QUICTEST:

1. Lobsters are cannibalistic and will feed on each other this is one reason they are difficult to raise in captivity. A.