

Lesson  
6**Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses***Teaching*

Here are ways to use the hyphen, the dash, and parentheses.

**Hyphens** Use a hyphen if part of a word must be carried over from one line to the next. Only words of two syllables or more may be broken, and at least two letters must be on each line. Make sure that the word is separated between syllables.

**Correct:** val- ue          an- tique          old- er

**Incorrect:** valu- e          ant- ique          o- lder

Use hyphens in certain compound words, such as *self-made* and *man-hour*.

Use hyphens in compound numbers from twenty-one through ninety-nine.

Use hyphens in spelled-out fractions, such as *one-sixth* and *two-eighths*.

**Dashes** Use dashes to show an abrupt break in thought.

Each model you see—don't touch!—requires weeks of work.

**Parentheses** Use parentheses to set off material that is loosely related to the rest of the sentence.

Making ships in bottles (which seems impossible) is an enjoyable hobby.

**A. Using Hyphens in Compound Words and Fractions**

Write each of these words and phrases correctly, adding hyphens where needed.

- fifty four stamps \_\_\_\_\_
- two thirds complete \_\_\_\_\_
- well balanced stamp collection \_\_\_\_\_
- thirty two cent stamps \_\_\_\_\_
- new self sealing stamps \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Using Hyphens in Words Broken Between Lines**

Underline each word that is broken correctly for use at the end of a line.

- quart-er, dol-lar, nick-el, mone-y, bo-oks, penn-y
- pict-ure, su- ccess, mod-el, bru-sh, eas-y, paint-ing

**C. Using Dashes and Parentheses**

Add dashes and parentheses where they are needed in these sentences.

- My prized baseball card oh, no! is missing.
- He has been making models airplanes are his favorite since he was a boy.
- Putting together a model no matter how easy it may look always takes time.
- Buying new baseball cards they are usually cheap is something I do quite often.
- Shirley runs three miles every day it takes her half an hour.

**Lesson 6**

# Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses

*More Practice*

## A. Using Hyphens in Compound Words and Fractions

Write each of these words and phrases correctly, adding hyphens where needed.

1. four fifths of the real size \_\_\_\_\_
2. ill advised trading \_\_\_\_\_
3. several half dollars \_\_\_\_\_
4. eighty eight piano keys \_\_\_\_\_
5. riding all of the merry go rounds \_\_\_\_\_

## B. Using Dashes and Parentheses

Add dashes and parentheses where they are needed in these sentences.

1. Reading mystery novels mostly the ones by Agatha Christie takes up my evenings.
2. Painting you should most definitely try it is a good way to express yourself.
3. She might if I have anything to say about it change her mind about selling her coins.
4. Horseback riding you must have guessed by now can be a dangerous sport.
5. The first stitch in needlework see the drawing below is an important one to learn.

## C. Using Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses Correctly

Rewrite each sentence, correcting punctuation errors. If a word at the end of a line is broken incorrectly, but there is a correct way of breaking it, show the word broken correctly in your revision. If the word may not be broken, move it to the second line.

1. Soccer (which is still more popular in Europe has been my favorite pastime since I was a young child. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. When I play soccer as you probably already know—I play halfback. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Our team (which is called the Blazers) has been the division champion for two years. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The playoff games you should come to one—if you get the chance are always very thrilling. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. My coach says that if I keep practicing, I will make the varsity team. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson**  
**6**

# Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses

*Application*

## A. Proofreading for Correct Punctuation

Rewrite this paragraph on the lines below, adding or correcting the placement of hyphens, dashes, and parentheses as needed.

My brother as you might remember is a very talented juggler. Juggling which I find hard to learn—is the art of keeping two or more objects in the a-ir while tossing them back and forth in your hands. Four fifths of the time, he can juggle without dropping anything. He began as anyone would—with just three objects. Later, he wanted to try juggling, believe it or not, eggs! However, we convinced him to try hard-boiled eggs first.

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## B. Writing with Correct Punctuation

Follow the directions to write and punctuate sentences correctly.

1. Write a sentence that requires a hyphen.

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2. Write a sentence that requires dashes and at least one hyphen.

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3. Write a sentence that requires a hyphen and parentheses.

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4. Write a sentence that requires two hyphens and either dashes or parentheses.

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