

## 5

# Punctuation Matters!

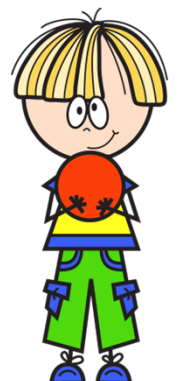
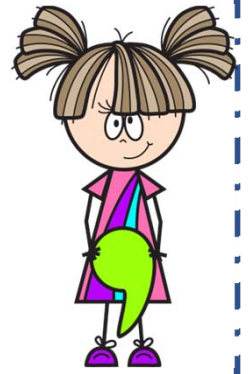
Punctuation is an important part of writing. Punctuation helps to make sentences clear and easily understood. The most commonly used punctuation marks are the period, the comma, the semicolon, the colon, the exclamation mark, and the question mark. Punctuation marks such as periods, commas, and question marks help to specify pauses, show sentence structure, and specify the type of sentence. The period, the question mark and the exclamation mark are punctuation marks that end a sentence in a specific way. Knowing when and how to use the various punctuation marks is a key part of developing writing skills. Look at the following sentences to show how punctuation can change the meaning in a sentence:

“Let’s eat, Mom.”

“Let’s eat Mom.”

The first implies to eat dinner, the second implies to eat Mom! Knowing how to use punctuation correctly is a very important part of writing. By understanding the different punctuation marks and when to use them, you can make sure that your writing is clear and easy to understand as observed by the two sentences above. Proper use of punctuation is very important to provide clear, effective written communication. It helps the writer show their intended meaning and guides the reader through the reading passages, making it easier to understand. Whether you're writing a book, an email, or a tweet, taking the time to use punctuation correctly can greatly improve the impact of your writing.

1. Read the passage about Punctuation Matters
2. Underline any word or sentence you don't understand.
3. Answer the questions.



# Punctuation Matters!

Answer according to the reading passage:

- 1. Punctuation is an important part of:**
  - a. writing
  - b. grammar
  - c. learning to read
  
- 2. The period, exclamation mark and question mark all:**
  - a. are only used in email
  - b. show a pause between lists and ideas
  - c. end sentences
  
- 3. Proper use of punctuation is very important to:**
  - a. provide clear, effective writing communication
  - b. provide pauses in writing
  - c. end sentences
  
- 4. Punctuation is also important to:**
  - a. guide readers through reading passages
  - b. make writing easier
  - c. change the meaning of sentences
  
- 5. Punctuation is only important when writing:**
  - a. books and email
  - b. tweets
  - c. all of above

# 5

# Punctuation Matters! Open Response Questions

Open response questions for thinking skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. Why did the writer call this passage "Punctuation Matters!" ?
2. How does reading this passage help you with your reading and writing?
3. Explain in 3 sentences what this reading passage is about.
4. What comes across your mind as you are reading this passage?
  
5. Write 2 sentences showing that the meaning is different due to the change in punctuation.
6. What is the hardest part about using punctuation for you?