


Using Commas to Indicate Parenthesis

Read the screenshots below to remind yourself of what parenthesis is and what an embedded clause is. Today's lesson will be on using paired commas to indicate an embedded clause (also known as a parenthesis).

What is Parenthesis?

A parenthesis is a word, phrase or sentence that is put in writing as extra information or an afterthought.

If you take the parenthesis away, the passage is still complete and still makes sense.



Embedded Clauses

The word embedded means 'within'.

An embedded clause is another way of using a subordinate clause – by dropping it into the middle of a sentence. This time you need two commas, one either side of the clause.


paired commas

embedded clause

Celia, **who loved animals**, searched for the lost cat.

The embedded clause is a **parenthesis**.

Parenthesis = a word or phrase inserted as an explanation or afterthought into a passage which is grammatically complete (the sentence makes sense) without it.



Task:

1. Read Chapter 7 (p122 of the PDF, starts 'Mr Crumb landed the broom...') for the next part of the story.
2. Work through the **Green** Magicians sheet (p124) in your book. *Remember to begin by identifying which part of the sentence is the parenthesis, then marking that with paired commas, one at the start of the parenthesis (also known as embedded clause) and one at the end of the parenthesis.*
3. Mark your work using the answers on p148 (under the heading 'Chapter 7') of the Y5 SPaG PDF file.