



Punctuation for Parenthetical Elements

Today's Standard

6.L.2a - Use punctuation (commas, parentheses, dashes) to set off nonrestrictive/parenthetical elements.*

Cues	Notes
What are nonrestrictive elements?	Nonrestrictive elements add extra information to a sentence that is not essential to its main meaning.
How do you use commas with parenthetical elements?	Commas are used to set off nonrestrictive elements from the rest of the sentence.
Why are parentheses used?	Parentheses are used to add additional information or an aside that is not crucial to the main point.
When should you use dashes?	Dashes can be used for emphasis or to set off parenthetical elements more dramatically.
Examples of nonrestrictive elements.	Example: My brother, who lives in New York, is visiting us next week.

Summary

Nonrestrictive elements provide extra information in a sentence and are set off using commas, parentheses, or dashes. Understanding how to punctuate these elements correctly helps in writing clear and effective sentences.