



Punctuation for Pauses and Breaks

Today's Standard

8.L.2a - Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Writing dialogue in stories; Creating dramatic pauses in speeches; Breaking up complex sentences for clarity; Emphasizing important points in essays; Separating items in a list within a sentence

Today I Learned

Today I learned how to use commas, ellipses, and dashes to show pauses or breaks in writing. This helps make my writing clearer and more interesting.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that commas, ellipses, and dashes can be used the same way, but they can't. Each one has a special job. Also, using too many of these can make writing hard to understand.

Quiz Me

- What does a comma do?
- When do you use an ellipsis?
- What is a dash used for?
- Can you use commas, ellipses, and dashes the same way?
- Why shouldn't you use too many punctuation marks?

Help Me

Using commas, ellipses, and dashes can help make your writing clearer. For example, use a comma to separate items in a list, an ellipsis to show a pause or omitted words, and a dash to add emphasis or show a change in thought.