

# Punctuation in Simple Sentences

## 1. Period (.)

A period is used to mark the end of a declarative sentence, which makes a statement.

**Example:**

She reads books.

## 2. Question Mark (?)

A question mark is used at the end of an interrogative sentence, which asks a question.

**Example:**

Are you coming?

## 3. Exclamation Mark (!)

An exclamation mark is used to express strong emotion or emphasis.

**Example:**

Wow! That's amazing.

## 4. Comma (,)

A comma can be used in a simple sentence to indicate a pause or to separate items in a list.

**Example:**

She bought apples, oranges, and bananas.

## 5. Apostrophe (')

An apostrophe is used to show possession or to form contractions.

**Possession Example:** John's book is on the table.

**Contraction Example:** It's raining outside. (It is)

## 6. Quotation Marks (" ")

Quotation marks are used to indicate direct speech or to denote titles of short works.

**Direct Speech Example:** She said, "I will be there soon."

**Titles Example:** I just read "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe.

## 7. Colon (:)

A colon is used to introduce a list, a quotation, or an explanation.

**List Example:** You need to buy the following items:  
milk, bread, and eggs.

**Explanation Example:** He had one goal: to win the race.

## 8. Semicolon (;)

A semicolon is used to connect closely related independent clauses.

**Example:**

She loves reading; her brother enjoys playing video games.

## 9. Dash (– or —)

A dash is used to indicate a break in thought or to add emphasis.

**Break in Thought Example:** He was going to explain—  
if only she had let him.

**Emphasis Example:** She received a surprising gift—a  
new car.

## 10. Parentheses (())

Parentheses are used to add extra information or to clarify.

**Example:**

She finally answered (after taking a long pause) that  
she would join us.

## 11. Hyphen (-)

A hyphen is used to join words in a compound modifier or to split words at  
the end of a line.

**Compound Modifier Example:** She is a well-known  
author.

**Line Break Example:** The package arrived at the end  
of the weeke-nd.

## Examples of Simple Sentences with Punctuation:

### Period:

The dog barked.  
He walked home.

### Question Mark:

Did you see that movie?  
What time is it?

### Exclamation Mark:

Watch out!  
I can't believe it!

### Comma:

She bought apples, oranges, and bananas.  
After school, he went to the library.

## **Apostrophe:**

It's a beautiful day.  
Sarah's car is new.

## **Quotation Marks:**

"Let's go," he said.  
She read "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe.

## **Colon:**

He needed to buy: bread, milk, and eggs.  
She had one hobby: painting.

## **Semicolon:**

She loves to swim; he prefers to run.  
It was late; they decided to go home.

## **Dash:**

He was happy-ecstatic, really-about the news.  
We met in Paris-a beautiful city.

## Parentheses:

She moved to Paris (her dream city) last year.  
The book (which was a gift) was on the table.

## Hyphen:

She is a well-known artist.  
They reached a break-through in the case.