11.5 Dashes for Parenthesis: 10-minute Pack

about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Camping Trip to Fenwood Forest

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On Friday morning, the Year 5 class - kitted out in waterproof coats and walking boots - set off for Fenwood Forest. Mr Patel, the trip leader, had promised the adventure of a lifetime. The coach wound along a narrow track lined with tall, dripping trees, and Zara pressed her nose against the misty window. When they finally arrived, two rangers - a tall woman named Sam and her quieter colleague, Ben - were waiting by the gate. Sam showed the class how to pitch a two-person tent, tugging each guy rope until the canvas stood tight and firm. Ben, meanwhile, led a small group towards the stream to search for animal tracks. By lunchtime, everyone had gathered wood for the campfire - dry twigs, fallen branches and one enormous, well-worn log. As the light began to fade, Sam lit the fire, and the whole class - even the pupils who had grumbled about the long walk - crowded round to watch the flames climb higher. Nobody wanted to leave the warm circle of light, not even when the first owl called from somewhere deep in the trees.

1 A dash can be used on its own to add extra information to the end of a sentence. In print, a dash is a longer line than a hyphen; in this pack it is shown as a hyphen with a space on each side (-). Tick the sentence in each pair that uses a dash correctly.

(a) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) The dog ran into the garden its lead trailing behind.
- ☐ B) The dog ran into the garden - its lead trailing behind.

(b) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) Zara packed her rucksack in a hurry - spare socks, a torch and a water bottle.
- ☐ B) Zara packed her rucksack in a hurry spare socks a torch and a water bottle.

(c) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) Leo won the race he had trained every single day.
- ☐ B) Leo won the race - he had trained every single day.

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(d) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) The rangers lit the campfire at last light - too late for toasting marshmallows.
- ☐ B) The rangers lit the campfire at last light too late for toasting marshmallows.

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2 Commas, brackets and a pair of dashes can all mark off the same extra information in a sentence. Sort the six examples in the box below into the correct column of the table, according to which punctuation is used.

Word bank: , who was clearly exhausted, | - who was clearly exhausted - | (who was clearly exhausted) | , still dripping wet, | (still dripping wet) | - still dripping wet -

Commas	Brackets	Dashes

(6)

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3 The paragraph below is missing three pairs of dashes. Find and correct the three errors.

The gymnastics coach a former national champion arrived early to set up the mats. She checked every mat twice even the ones nobody would use before the pupils came in. By the end of the session, the whole class red-faced and out of breath agreed it had been the best lesson yet.

(3)

4 Write two sentences of your own about a school trip or event. One sentence must use a pair of dashes to mark off extra information in the middle of the sentence. The other must use a single dash to add extra information at the end of the sentence.

(2)

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Mark scheme · 11.5 Dashes for Parenthesis: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) B ticked cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) The dog ran into the garden - its lead trailing behind.**

(b) A ticked cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **A) Zara packed her rucksack in a hurry - spare socks, a torch and a water bottle.**

(c) B ticked cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **B) Leo won the race - he had trained every single day.**

(d) A ticked cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **A) The rangers lit the campfire at last light - too late for toasting marshmallows.**

Question 2

, who was clearly exhausted, sorted as Commas cao **B1**

, still dripping wet, sorted as Commas cao **B1**

(who was clearly exhausted) sorted as Brackets cao **B1**

(still dripping wet) sorted as Brackets cao **B1**

- who was clearly exhausted - sorted as Dashes cao **B1**

- still dripping wet - sorted as Dashes cao **B1**

Answer:

Commas	Brackets	Dashes
, who was clearly exhausted,	(who was clearly exhausted)	- who was clearly exhausted -
, still dripping wet,	(still dripping wet)	- still dripping wet -

Question 3

dashes inserted before a and after champion, before arrived cao **B1**

dashes inserted before even and after use, before before cao **B1**

dashes inserted before red-faced and after breath, before agreed (the hyphen inside red-faced is not touched) cao **B1**

Answer: **The gymnastics coach - a former national champion - arrived early to set up the mats. She checked every mat twice - even the ones nobody would use - before the pupils came in. By the end of the session, the whole class - red-faced and out of breath - agreed it had been the best lesson yet.**

Question 4

sentence using a correctly matched pair of dashes to mark parenthesis in the middle of the sentence **B1**

sentence using a single dash to add extra information correctly at the end of the sentence **B1**

Answer: **The coach driver - a cheerful woman called Mrs Ellis - waited by the door. Everyone cheered when the bus finally arrived - ten minutes early for once.**

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