

Dashes

Dashes are used in the following 4 ways:

1. *To set off parenthetical comments inside a sentence.*

Example: My mom – an avid birdwatcher – often rises at 4:00 to spy on the birds from her front porch.

2. *To set off sudden changes in tone in a sentence.*

Example: The young man was very brave – or oblivious to the danger – when he jumped into the path of the speeding car to rescue the child.

3. *To show a closed range.*

Example: Counselors will be available for registration from August 8–11.

4. *To show a relationship between two names or numbers.*

Example: I'm taking the Chicago–Dallas flight tomorrow.

Example: The Bluebirds beat the Bluejays 8–7.

Directions: Insert dashes where needed.

- 1)** The table built by my great grandfather 100 years ago now sits in our living room.
- 2)** The teacher was perturbed and rightly so when none of the students showed up for the test review.
- 3)** Margaret took the Tucson Phoenix bus to visit her family.
- 4)** Your spring vacation will be from March 11 18.
- 5)** The tree casts a shadow a very short one at noon which offers some respite from the heat.
- 6)** The man was unhappy about the loss or maybe the theft of his wallet.
- 7)** Jose's tie bright pink and loud green made him the most noticed person in the room!
- 8)** The Duke UNC soccer game starts tonight at 10:00.
- 9)** If John forgot his lunch money again I know he did he is in big trouble.