

# Reading Punctuation

PUNCTUATION	WHAT DOES YOUR VOICE DO WHEN IT HITS THAT MARK?	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
,	Pause at a <b>comma</b> .	Kevin collects stamps, baseball cards, and comic books.
.	Stop (or pause longer) at a <b>period</b> .	Bats and elephants are mammals. Owls and geese are birds.
?	Your voice goes up at the end of a sentence with a <b>question mark</b> to show you are asking a question, wondering something, or expressing doubt.	What is your favorite food? You stayed up all night?
!	Raise your voice when reading a sentence with an <b>exclamation point</b> to share strong feelings of joy, fear, anger, horror or surprise.	She's coming! Hide before we ruin the surprise! I made five baskets in a row! Help! My foot is stuck!
“ ”	Read words within <b>quotation marks</b> to sound like the character.	“Don't dillydally all day,” said the old woman.
...	Your voice drifts off at an <b>ellipse</b> creating a long pause for think time or suspense.	“I... I can't believe... Did I really win?” asked the girl?
—	Stop suddenly at a <b>dash</b> , and then finish the rest of the sentence quickly.	This heat— 108 degrees— is unbearable.
( )	Pause before and after a <b>parenthesis</b> to alert the reader you're adding in a little extra information. Your voice often gets softer, too.	The Wagner Playground (also known as the tire-swing playground) is on East Street.
<i>italics</i> <b>boldface</b> underline ALL CAPS	Stress words written in different <b>typesyles</b> .	“You ate <i>that</i> ?” gasped Joe. “ <b>Ouch!</b> I've been stung by a bee!” “The ball goes in the hoop, not over it,” sneered Rick. “HIP, HIP, HOORAY!” they shouted.