

Name:

Date:

CONVENTIONS PUNCTUATION MARKS

He—y, Come On Ou—t!

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Punctuation marks are used to clarify the meaning of written material. They can show how one idea relates to another. They can also signal interruptions in speech or thought. Writers may use punctuation marks to indicate strong emotion such as surprise or shock. Punctuation marks include the following:

hyphen (-): joins two or more separate words into a single word

dash (—): sets off information that interrupts a thought

colon (:): precedes an explanation; introduces a list or quotation

semicolon (;): joins related independent clauses

parentheses (()): enclose extra information

brackets ([]): clarify information within a quotation

A. DIRECTIONS: Add the correct punctuation mark to these sentences from the story “He—y, Come On Ou—t!”

1. The hole cleansed the city of its filth_____the sea and sky seemed to have become a bit clearer than before.
2. Little by little the hole_____filling company expanded its business.
3. ...a bunch of gawking curiosity seekers showed up_____one could also pick out here and there men of shifty glances who appeared to be concessionaires.
4. ...there would be absolutely no above_____ground contamination for several thousand years...
5. Above his head he heard a voice shout_____“He—y, come on ou—t!”

B. DIRECTIONS: For each item, choose a sentence from the selection and rewrite it using the punctuation mark indicated.

1. dash _____
2. parentheses _____
3. brackets _____