Use Brackets to Show Parenthesis (Extra Information)

Sometimes we want to add a bit of extra information to a sentence as an afterthought. If we left out this extra word or phrase, the main sentence would still make sense. This is called **parenthesis**. There's an example of parenthesis in the title of this activity sheet!

For each of these sentences, can you add a parenthesis in the space marked _____? There's a hint word to help you think what to write. Have a look at these examples.

e.g. My brother _____ never brushes his hair! [hint: **Cool**]

My brother ***(who thinks he's really cool)*** never brushes his hair!

e.g. My brother _____ never brushes his hair! [hint: **Name?**]

My brother ***(who's called Jason)*** never brushes his hair!

1. I watched a horror film _____ and it really scared me! [hint: **Title?**]
2. Dinosaurs _____ were a type of reptile. [hint: **Extinct**]
3. We're not allowed peanut butter _____ in school because there's a girl who's allergic to nuts. [hint: **Packed lunch**]
4. The bats _____ sleep in our attic during the day. [hint: **Nocturnal**]
5. I lost my phone _____ when we went on the Thunder Roller ride. [hint: **Birthday present**]
6. We made popcorn _____ for my birthday party. [hint: **Type?**]
7. Simone _____ doesn't speak much English yet. [hint: **From where?**]
8. We were helping the caretaker _____ to carry all the chairs into the hall. [hint: **Back ache**]
9. There aren't any apples left _____ because we used them to make a pie. [hint: **Lots earlier**]
10. 'Blue Peter' _____ has been on TV since the 1960s. [hint: **Children's programme**]
11. Put some cushions _____ on the floor and we can lie down to watch the film. [hint: **How many?**]
12. My dog _____ is a very curly labradoodle. [hint: **Name?**]

Challenge

Now write three sentences of your own.
Each one should include a parenthetical (extra) piece of information.

Remember to use brackets!

Use Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Show Parenthesis

For each of these sentences, add some extra information (parenthesis) in the space _____. Remember to mark the start and end of your parenthesis with **brackets**, **commas** or **dashes**. Try to vary your punctuation; don't just use one!

e.g. My brother _____ never brushes his hair!

My brother***, who thinks he's really cool,*** never brushes his hair! **OR**

My brother ***– Jason –*** never brushes his hair! **OR**

My brother ***(the scruffiest boy in history)*** never brushes his hair!

1. I watched a horror film _____ and it really scared me!
2. Dinosaurs _____ were a type of reptile.
3. We're not allowed peanut butter _____ in school because there's a girl who's allergic to nuts.
4. The bats _____ sleep in our attic during the day.
5. I lost my phone _____ when we went on the Thunder Roller ride.
6. We made popcorn _____ for my birthday party.
7. Simone _____ doesn't speak much English yet.
8. We were helping the caretaker _____ to carry all the chairs into the hall.
9. There aren't any apples left _____ because we used them to make a pie.
10. 'Blue Peter' _____ has been on TV since the 1960s.
11. Put some cushions _____ on the floor and we can lie down to watch the film.
12. My dog _____ is a very curly labradoodle.

Challenge

Now write three sentences of your own.

Each one should be a complex sentence and include a parenthetical piece of information.

Remember to use brackets, commas or dashes.

Use Brackets, Dashes and Commas to Show Parenthesis

Task 1

For each of these sentences, add an extra information clause (parenthesis) to the noun or clause in **bold**. Remember to mark the start and end of your parenthesis with **brackets**, **commas** or **dashes**. Vary your punctuation; don't just use one!

e.g. **My brother** never brushes his hair!

My brother***, who thinks he's really cool,*** never brushes his hair! OR

My brother ***– Jason –*** never brushes his hair! OR

My brother ***(the scruffiest boy in history)*** never brushes his hair!

1. I'm going to **a party** on Saturday.
2. At the zoo last week, we saw **five elephants**.
3. Never smile at **a crocodile** or you'll regret it!
4. Mum's promised us **hot chocolate** after swimming club.
5. We won the **5-a-side match** easily.

Task 2

For each of these sentences, you need to choose a suitable parenthesis from the box underneath and work out where it should go. Remember to mark the start and end of your parenthesis with brackets, commas or dashes. Vary your punctuation; don't just use one!

e.g. The main door is in the basement.

The main door ***(with the square 'enter' button)*** is in the basement.

1. My favourite teddy has only one ear.
2. The Empire State Building is in New York.
3. Most smart phones can be used to play games.
4. The cycle track went right through the woods.
5. You'll never guess what I heard Sadie say to Kate!

which was full of pot holes	the kind with touch screens	my sister's friend
with the square 'enter' button	he's called Marvin	381m high

Challenge

Now write three sentences of your own.

Each one should be a complex sentence and include a parenthetical piece of information.

Remember to use brackets, commas or dashes.