

## Using Parentheses in Writing: Adding Information

Parentheses add emphasis to the words contained in the parentheses. One way parentheses are used in writing is to give information that might interrupt the normal flow of the sentence. Sometimes this information adds to reader's understanding of the rest of the sentence.

**Example 1:** John Smith (the Scottish architect, not the settler of Jamestown) built castles and bridges. The information in the parentheses, called a parenthetical element, may also be information that is unrelated to the sentence or unnecessary.

**Example 2:** The Great Dane (which is my favorite dog breed) originated in Germany.



Rewrite each sentence placing parentheses in the correct places.

1. My mother likes although I don't know why old folk music.
2. All tiger species especially the South China tiger are endangered.
3. Danny told Shelly can you believe this? that he made an A on the test.
4. Brad Pitt real name: William Bradley Pitt is a famous actor.
5. I wanted to go on Monday my day off! but no one else did.
6. Belize formerly British Honduras is in Central America.

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**Example 2:** The Great Dane (which is my favorite dog breed) originated in Germany.



Rewrite each sentence placing parentheses in the correct places.

1. My mother likes although I don't know why old folk music.  
**My mother likes (although I don't know why) old folk music.**
2. All tiger species especially the South China tiger are endangered.  
**All tiger species (especially the South China tiger) are endangered.**
3. Danny told Shelly can you believe this? that he made an A on the test.  
**Danny told Shelly (can you believe this?) that he made an A on the test.**
4. Brad Pitt real name: William Bradley Pitt is a famous actor.  
**Brad Pitt (real name: William Bradley Pitt) is a famous actor.**
5. I wanted to go on Monday my day off! but no one else did.  
**I wanted to go on Monday (my day off!) but no one else did.**
6. Belize formerly British Honduras is in Central America.  
**Belize (formerly British Honduras) is in Central America.**