

6. END PUNCTUATION

Read the following sentences and insert punctuation marks where needed:

1. Trudy ate the whole box of candies
2. Did you enjoy the movie
3. Watch out for that monster

The first sentence is a *statement* and should end in a *period*. The second sentence is a *question* and should end in a *question mark*. The third sentence is an *exclamation* (It expresses a strong or sudden feeling.) and should end in an *exclamation point*.

Definition

Periods, question marks, and exclamation points are all types of **end punctuation**. They are called end punctuation, not surprisingly, because they appear at the end of a sentence. Just as a capital letter signals the beginning of a sentence, a period, question mark, or exclamation point signals the end of a sentence.

You have already been introduced to imperative sentences (commands) in earlier lessons. As you may have noticed already, commands are punctuated in the same way as statements—with periods:

1. Fetch me the milk.
2. Stop that whining.
3. Look in the basement.

Indirect questions are sentences in which a question is referred to rather than asked directly. Indirect questions also end in periods:

1. Indirect: *Sue asked John if he wanted to go to the dance.*
Direct: *Sue asked, "Do you want to go to the dance, John?"* ends in a question mark.
2. Indirect: *Tilly asked the mechanic why her car wasn't ready.*
Direct: *"Why isn't my car ready?" Tilly asked.*

END PUNCTUATION EXERCISES

A. *Directions:* Complete the following sentences by inserting the proper form of end punctuation.

EXAMPLE: When are we going to the movie?

1. That restaurant is always crowded on weekends
2. What kind of money do they use in Nepal
3. John Wilkes Booth shot Abraham Lincoln at the Ford Theater
4. Watch out for the train
5. Do you think there is any reason to shout
6. An American writer named Ambrose Bierce disappeared in 1914
7. Ralph, catch the baby
8. Reykjavik is the capital of Iceland
9. Would you consider going to the dance with Josie
10. I can't stop the car

B. *Directions:* If a sentence is punctuated correctly, write **C** in the space at the end of the sentence. If the end punctuation is incorrect, circle it and write the correct punctuation in the space.

EXAMPLE: Did Jane drive the car to the movies? ?

1. Mao Zedong led a revolution in China in 1949! _____
2. What would you like to do with your life. _____
3. Walter spent the summer in Mexico City. _____
4. I can't stand it anymore. _____
5. Did Mr. Pringle believe your story about losing your homework?

6. Pip is the main character of the novel *Great Expectations*? _____
7. Get out of my way! _____
8. In 1860, millions of buffalo roamed the American prairies! _____
9. How did Harold lose the goldfish. _____
10. St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland? _____

C. *Directions:* Write two statements, two questions, and two exclamations. Punctuate each of these sentences with the proper end punctuation.

EXAMPLE: You're stepping on my hand!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____