

Punctuation

AP Style

TODAY

We will learn **when and where to put the most important punctuation** *including apostrophes, periods, commas, quotation marks, semicolon, colon, hyphens, en dashes, em dashes, ellipses, and parentheses.*

I will **copy edit publication copy using my knowledge of punctuation** *and other AP style.*

ON YOUR OWN

Edit the sentence on the right to correct it. There are four errors.

The soccer team was down 1-1 before a last minute goal forced overtime play. The game lasted until 9 pm which was the latest the team played all year.

ON YOUR OWN

Corrected sentence.

The soccer team was down 1–1 before a last-minute goal forced overtime play. The game lasted until 9 p.m., which was the latest the team played all year.

YOU SHOULD HAVE LEARNED

Apostrophes ‘ *show possession (Sally’s dog), contractions (can’t) and omissions (‘50s).*

Periods . *end all sentences and abbreviations.*

Commas , *separate lists, which (not that), appositive phrases, and offset clauses.*

“Quotation marks” *go around direct quotes and composition titles, but not names of publications, religious works or references.*

Semicolons *join two complete sentences that sound like one; colons (:) introduce a list or idea.*

Hyphens (-) *separate fractions and compound modifiers before the noun they modify.*

En Dashes (—) *go between scores and votes.*

Em Dashes (—) *can be used in place of commas, parentheses and colons.*

Ellipses ... *show omissions inside a direct quote.*

Parentheses *clarify intent in a (direct) quote.*