

Lucy

I can identify where and why hyphens are used in a text.



Read the story below and highlight all the examples of hyphens you can find.

Make notes about why you think the hyphens have been used.

Lucy

I knew the moment I opened my eyes that it was going to be a bad day. Somehow, I could just feel it. I rolled over and looked at the clock: eight twenty-five, far too early to be awake on a Saturday! I threw back my hot-pink duvet and sat up; yawning widely I reached for my mobile. I wondered if Jade had got the message I re-sent yesterday but there was no reply from her so I figured she hadn't, either that or she hadn't had a chance to text back. I padded across to my wardrobe and pulled out a pair of black jeans, but where was my new top? Jessie! I bet she had pinched it already. My mood darkened instantly. I stomped down to breakfast and found my family in a croissant and jam free-for-all. Nothing new there. Why were they not able to co-operate nicely like a normal family? Even Rover the dog, who was splattered with jam, was prowling around on his bear-like paws as he always does, jumping up to catch any crumbs that were flung his way. "Hey!" I called, struggling to be heard above the racket. "HEY!" The noise de-escalated and everyone turned to regard me. "Oh, good morning dear," my mum replied. "Sleep well?"

"Not especially," I grumbled. "Jessie, where's my new skeleton-head top?" Jessie grinned at me through sticky teeth. She was stupendously good at winding me up.

"Haven't seen it," she answered in a sweet sing-song voice. My sister was an out-and-out liar and I was determined to not let her get the better of me! However, before I could reply the answerphone tone on my phone rang out. An answerphone message? I hadn't even heard it ring. I didn't recognise the number which had called but I re-pressed the message icon and put the phone to my ear to listen.

"Lucy, it's Mr Farrow," the voice on the other end of the phone declared. Mr Farrow? Why is our new student-teacher calling me over the weekend? "Lucy it's almost half past eight and your science exam starts in fifteen minutes. Where are you?"

My heart thumped. "Mum... what day is it?" I asked tentatively, beginning to realise that perhaps it wasn't Saturday after all...

1. Read the story and highlight all the examples of hyphens you can find. Make notes about why you think the hyphens have been used.

Hyphen used to avoid an awkward letter combination - the two o vowels.

Hyphen used to create a compound adjective.

Hyphen used in a written number between 21 and 99.

Hyphen used to clarify the meaning of the word.

Hyphen used to create a compound objective.

Lucy

I knew the moment I opened my eyes that it was going to be a bad day. Somehow, I could just feel it. I rolled over and looked at the clock: eight **twenty-five**, far too early to be awake on a Saturday! I threw back my **hot-pink** duvet and sat up; yawning widely I reached for my mobile. I wondered if Jade had got the message I re-sent yesterday but there was no reply from her so I figured she hadn't, either that or she hadn't had a chance to text back. I padded across to my wardrobe and pulled out a pair of black jeans, but where was my new top? Jessie! I bet she had pinched it already. My mood darkened instantly. I stomped down to breakfast and found my family in a croissant and jam **free-for-all**. Nothing new there. Why were they not able to **co-operate** nicely like a normal family? Even Rover the dog, who was splattered with jam, was prowling around on his **bear-like** paws as he always does, jumping up to catch any crumbs that were flung his way. "Hey!" I called, struggling to be heard above the racket. "HEY!" The noise **de-escalated** and everyone turned to regard me. "Oh, good morning dear," my mum replied. "Sleep well?"

Hyphen used to join words to create an informal phrase.

Hyphen used between two nouns to create an adjective.

"Not especially," I grumbled. "Jessie, where's my new **skeleton-head** top?" Jessie grinned at me through sticky teeth. She was stupendously good at winding me up.

Hyphen used to avoid an awkward letter combination - the two e vowels.

Hyphen used to join words together to avoid ambiguity.

"Haven't seen it," she answered in a sweet **sing-song** voice. My sister was an **out-and-out** liar and I was determined to not let her get the better of me! However, before I could reply the answerphone tone on my phone rang out. An **answerphone** message? I hadn't even heard it ring. I didn't recognise the number which had called but I **re-pressed** the message icon and put the phone to my ear to listen.

Hyphen used to indicate that the word continues on the next line.

"Lucy, it's Mr Farrow," the voice on the other end of the phone declared. Mr Farrow? Why is our new **student-teacher** calling me over the weekend? "Lucy it's almost half past eight and your science exam starts in fifteen minutes. Where are you?"

My heart thumped. "Mum... what day is it?" I asked tentatively, beginning to realise that perhaps it wasn't Saturday after all...

Hyphen used between two nouns to create a new noun.

Hyphen used to join words together to avoid ambiguity.