Lesson 3

Quotation Marks, Apostrophe, Parentheses, Square Brackets, Omission, Low Line (Underscore), Slash

Now learn the following additional punctuation signs:

- Apostrophe ’ [or] '
- Opening double quotation mark " (dot 3)
- Closing double quotation mark " (dots 236)
- Opening single quotation mark ‘ [or] '
- Closing single quotation mark ’ [or] ' (dots 6, 356)
- Opening parenthesis ( (dots 5, 126)
- Closing parenthesis ) (dots 5, 345)
- Opening square bracket [ (dots 46, 126)
- Closing square bracket ] (dots 46, 345)

3.1 Single and Double Quotation Marks [UEB §7.6, October 2019 update]

In braille, there are several different symbols to represent the various types of print quotation marks (additional information about quotation marks will be studied in Lesson 16). However, in general, the braille opening and closing double quotation marks and the opening and closing single quotation marks should represent the corresponding print symbols where they occur in the text. Examples:

"Unbelievable!" he says.

"UNBELIEVABLE!!! he says.

"I only wrote 'come home soon'," he claims.
I only wrote ‘come home soon’. He claims.

3.2 Apostrophe

Follow print for the use of apostrophes. Example:

"Tell 'em Sam's favorite music is new—1990's too old."

"TELL 'EM SAM'S FAVORITE MUSIC IS NEW...1990'S TOO OLD."

3.2a Apostrophe with capital letters. A capital indicator is always placed immediately before the letter to which it applies. Therefore, if an apostrophe comes before a capital letter in print, the apostrophe is brailled before the capital indicator. Example:

"'Twas a brilliant plan," says Dan O'Reilly.

"'TWAS A BRILLIANT PLAN," SAYS DAN O'REILLY.

The apostrophe ends the effect of a capitalized word indicator. Therefore, repeat the capitalized word indicator following an apostrophe in a fully capitalized word. Examples:

O'NEIL'S PUB

O'NEIL'S PUB

OK'd

OK'd
3.2b Apostrophe replacing numbers. When a print number is preceded by an apostrophe, in braille the apostrophe is placed before the number indicator. Example:

'59

3.3 Parentheses and Brackets

Follow print for the placement and spacing of parentheses and brackets. Examples:

He hit me (sob).  \text{\texttt{\textbackslash hehit\textbackslash me\textbackslash sob}}

[See page 10.]  \text{\texttt{\textbackslash see\textbackslash page\textbackslash 10}}

Susan Naidu (1966- )
\text{\texttt{susan\textbackslash naidu\textbackslash 1966-}}

Drill 10

Practice brailling the following sentences, treating each numbered sentence as a paragraph.

1. "I love my new home; twelve nice big rooms!" he exclaims.
2. Jimmie (a husky boy, age twelve) ate a huge banana pie.
3. A girl wrote on a slate: “I love all animals, wild or tame.”
4. 'Tis true, I love rock tunes; I buy digital music at $50 a week.
5. “If Adam sees ‘Hamlet,’ I hope he'll take adequate notes,” wrote Aunt Lucy.
6. All budget items [see Joe's report on fiscal policies, \texttt{\textbackslash www.economology.org}] presuppose a rigid economy.
7. "Damon irritates me," Raymond wrote Roseanne; "he calls me 'ignorant'!"
8. Sam's '99 class celebrates next week; RSVP's to reunion99@hhs.ohio.us.

3.4 Omission [UEB §7.2]

3.4a Low Line (Underscore). When in print a line below the level of the normal type is used to indicate that something has been omitted, such as a word, partial word, name, number, or a blank to be filled in, one low line (underscore), dots 46, 36 (⠝⠙⠦⠃), is used for each line, regardless of the length of the line.

Examples:

Two plus six equals ______.

\[\text{Two plus six equals } \underline{\text{____.}}\]

Guess the missing letters spi ___ ch

\[\text{Guess the missing letters spi } \underline{\text{_____ch}}\]

Attending ___ Yes ___ No \[\underline{\text{Attending }} \underline{\text{__Yes __No}}\]

3.4b Dash. When a dash is used to show omission of part of a word, follow print. A dash showing omission of part of a word should be brailled on the same line with the word; if there is not room on a braille line for the partial word and its associated dash, bring the symbols-sequence to the next line. Example:

I've no idea wh— \[\underline{\text{I've no idea wh}}\]

In general, the two-cell dash is used to represent a print dash regardless of its length. However, if both a long and a short dash occur in the text being transcribed, use a braille long dash, dots 5, 6, 36 (⠼⠼⠼⠢⠃), so that the different dashes can be distinguished. Example:

Ms. —— is a private detective — I guess.

\[\underline{\text{Ms. —— is a private detective — I guess.}}\]
3.5 Slash [UEB §7.4]

The slash is also known as a solidus. When such a mark is used between print abbreviations, words, or numbers, this sign is represented in braille by dots 456, 34 (\(\backslash\)). This symbol should be spaced as in print.

\[s/he \quad Mr/s\]

3.5a A slash terminates the effect of the capitalized word indicator and the numeric indicator; therefore, when a slash occurs between two numbers or two capitalized words or abbreviations, the numeric indicator or capitalized word indicator is repeated after the slash. The capitalized passage indicator (and other passage indicators to be studied later) is only ever terminated by the specific passage terminator, and so the effect of the passage indicator carries through the slash. Note that fractions have different rules and will be studied later. Examples:

USOM/APO

TAN/cj

9/11

Model 8/408

MAKE A BACKUP/SAVE FILES

Drill 11

Practice brailling the following sentences.
1. Sudan has a dry climate; ______ is wet.
2. Daddy's new/old philosophy is a puzzle.
3. "Roxie says he is a complete idi—"
5. M __ __ __ ___'s record is basically poor.
6. Mr. _____ uses an alias.
7. A program on cable TV kept me up late: CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS/GRASSY KNOLL.

READING PRACTICE

Practice your braille reading skills by reading the following sentences and writing them out in print. Compare your work with the print version in Appendix A.

KIM LOVES COLORS: ROSE, COBALT BLUE, FUCSIA, DEEP PURPLE, ORANGE.

TWA AS A FAIR TRADE. SAM REPORTS:

IF IM ASK: Respond yes/no.

HIPPOCRATES: GREEK PHYSICIAN.

MY BOSS SAYS JOHN SMU HAS A BAD RECORD.

HANNAH HAS A SIX-WEEK-OLD SIAMESE CAT.

BUZZ IS ONOMATOPOEIA.

EXPRESS AISLE ONLY. PAY AT DESK.

SODIUM NITRATE MAKES ROCKET PROPELLANT/ EXPLOSIVES, TOO.

JOANNA TOOLE HAS A CUTE BABY BOY.

TELL MEI HAS LORI AT A SECRET LOVE.

PUT ON A HAPPY-FACED FACE.

JANE SAYS DAVID IS A LIE.

PAUSE AT MIKE'S PLACE. GAS.

FOOD
EXERCISE

Prepare the following sentences for submission to the instructor.

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1. John asks: “Did I make Mom mad at me, Dad? I didn’t want to.”
2. Joe (a grumpy man) seldom smiles; Joe’s wife (luckily) seems happy.
4. “Oh, don’t play silly games,” he snaps, “let’s look at Facebook.”
5. Is Egypt an equatorial region? [See African map.]
6. Let’s take a swim at— Oh, no, I left my swimsuit at home.
7. “Practice Poe’s poem ‘Annabel Lee,’” Dr. Johnson told Tom’s dramatics class.
8. My nephew, Evan, is on a five- or six-week trip abroad.
9. "'Tis true, Juanita," spoke Joseph sadly, "we move next week."
10. We meet at — twice a week — we plot espionage.
12. Dalai Lama (1936- ), Tibet's hope, visits Canada.
13. If Major Morris is correct—I hope he is—Bill flies home next autumn.
14. I hate a mid-April or -May cold spell.
15. Tom B______ is a d__n idiot if he doesn't take John's old job.
16. SALE ON FRUIT BASKETS/BALLOON BOUQUETS!!
17. "'Give me a home run or give me a triple' is my motto," says Spillville's cocky second baseman.
18. Franz is a born musician—plays well on a piano, an electric organ (pipe organ, too), a cello, trumpet or drums.
19. We saw OILY O'NEILL'S ESCAPADES at a local movie.
20. — oh, I'm sorry!
21. (Dudley left home prematurely. He wrote: my aunt's ideosyncrasies [sic] drove me nuts!)
22. "We'll visit Alaska next July; Memphis is too hot," agrees Danielle.
23. 18,000,079 plus 6,956 plus 3,721 equals _____.
24. Look at my '38 antique Buick.
SUMMARY: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Below is a summary of some terminology and concepts that have been studied so far. These concepts will be expanded in subsequent lessons, so it is important to understand them clearly.

A capital letter indicator means that only the next letter is capitalized.

A capitalized word indicator means that the next word is fully capitalized. In other words, it sets capitals mode for one word. Its effect is ended by:

- a space
- a capitals terminator or capital letter indicator
- any non-alphabetic symbol (such as a number, a period, a slash, an apostrophe, or a hyphen).

A passage is three or more symbols-sequences—that is, three or more strings of unspaced characters.

If three or more symbols-sequences in a row are fully capitalized, a capitalized passage indicator is used. This indicator sets capitals mode for the entire passage. Its effect is stopped only by a capitalized passage terminator.

A digit (that is, a number 1 through 0) sets numeric mode. (Note that other aspects of numeric mode will be studied in later lessons). Numeric mode continues over:

- Numbers
- Period or decimal point
- Comma
- Simple fraction line (to be studied later)
- Continuation indicator (to be studied later)
- Numeric space (to be studied later)

Numeric mode is terminated by a space or by any symbol that is not in the above list.

[This lesson last updated: November 21, 2019.]