

Understand

Ellipses have different purposes and can be effective if used well.

- A - They can be used to create tension by adding a pause before the end of a sentence.
- B - They can show that a sentence or thought is trailing off.
- C - They can show that a character is uncertain or is pausing in their speech.
- D - They can show that words are missing from a sentence.

Read the sentences below. Show how the **ellipsis** is being used by adding a letter from the list above.

"I was just wondering..."
Mike said.

"I'm not sure... It might not
be a good idea," said Jim.

John looked at the table and
noticed that the keys were
missing...

We waited... then went home.

Challenge

Write a sentence about this image to create tension.



15-Minute Ellipsis Challenge!

Write a sentence to show that the character is not certain.



Test

Tick the sentences where an **ellipsis** is correctly used.

- Jim was... annoyed.
- Slowly, the door began to open and something stepped through...
- "I'm not sure, perhaps if we can use the find the missing parts..."
- "Happy... Birthday!" said John.
- "Well... We could play outside... although board games would be fun too."

Explain

Using your own words, explain the different ways in which **ellipses** can be used. Give examples.

Rewrite these sentences, including an **ellipsis**.

"It's possible" thought Mike.

The plant growing in the field was unusual.

"I don't know maybe I'll have orange squash," said Tom.

Apply

You have gone walking and are now lost. This is the only sign of life you can see. Use this picture to write a short piece full of tension.

Make sure to include **two ellipses** used for different reasons to show that you understand how they work.



Extra challenge:
Can you start one
of your sentences
with a fronted
adverbial?