

DASH



Just a reminder...



A **dash** can be used to separate two main clauses indicating that the two sentences are linked to each other.

A main clause contains one idea or event, a verb and always makes sense on its own.



Avoid using dashes in this way in formal writing.



Dashes show the reader that there is a pause in the sentence that is longer than for a **comma** but shorter than for a **full stop**.



There was a beach, a pool and crazy golf. It was the best holiday ever!

There was a beach, a pool and crazy golf - it was the best holiday ever!

Swimming is a great form of exercise. I try to swim 20 lengths of our local pool every day!

Swimming is a great form of exercise - I try to swim 20 lengths of our local pool every day!



Top tip! Don't over-use **dashes** in your writing. Mix them up with conjunctions and semi-colons in place of the pause.



Dashes can also be used around a parenthesis... see earlier sheet!