

Y6 Hyphens

KS2 Y6 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Add a hyphen: 'It was a heart stopping moment.'

Step 1 · Which words describe the noun 'moment' together?

heart + stopping

Step 2 · Do they make sense apart?

No: it is not a 'heart moment' or a 'stopping moment'.

Step 3 · Join them

heart-stopping

Answer: It was a heart-stopping moment.

Check: One idea, one hyphenated adjective.

2. Now try one with the steps

Explain the difference: 'a hard working miner' and 'a hard-working miner'.

Step 1 · Without the hyphen

Step 2 · With the hyphen

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. Write 34 in words.

2. Add a hyphen: 'a well known author'

3. Add a hyphen: 'a sugar free drink'

4. What does 'resign' mean?

5. What does 're-sign' mean?

6. Add hyphens: 'my eleven year old brother'

7. Is a hyphen needed? 'My brother is eleven years old.'

8. Write 'two thirds' hyphenated fraction.

9. Explain the ambiguity in 'a man eating shark' and how a hyphen fixes it.

10. Choose: 'The nurse helped the patient (recover / re-cover) after surgery.'

11. Add a hyphen to show the guests were about thirty: 'thirty odd guests'

12. What is the difference between 'a little used car' and 'a little-used car'?

13. Add a hyphen to the prefix: 'Please reenter your password.'

14. Write a sentence using a hyphenated adjective before a noun.

4. Before you hand it in

The well-known-film was long.

The well-known film was long.

Hyphenating after the noun: 'My sister is seven-years-old.'

My sister is seven years old. (but: my seven-year-old sister)

Hyphenating adverbs ending in -ly: 'a beautifully-painted door'

a beautifully painted door

Using a hyphen where a dash is meant: 'I waited-and waited.'

I waited – and waited.