

An ellipsis is a set of three dots used to show that words have been missed out or a sentence is not finished.

An ellipsis can be used:

- to show that a word or number of words is missing from a text.
- to create a pause for effect.
- to show an unfinished thought.
- to show a trail off into silence.



Suddenly, the door opened...

"Well, if that's what you think..."

The netball team had an amazing result... a tremendous victory!

Unaware of what was lurking behind the door, I entered the room...

We pray, "Hail Mary, full of Grace... pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen."



An ellipsis can also be used to show that words have been missed out of a long quote if you don't want to include the full version in your writing.



It is possible to use a dash to create a pause for effect.



Top tip! Don't over-use ellipses (plural of ellipsis) in your writing.



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