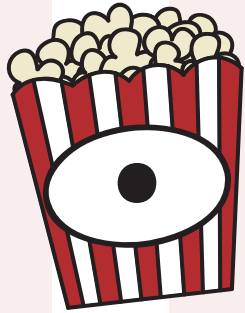


Poppin' Punctuation



A **full stop** is used to mark the end of a sentence.

My favourite food is popcorn.



An **exclamation mark** is used at the end of a strong declaration, command or interjection.

Shhhh! Stop talking!



A **comma** is used to: separate items in a list, show pauses and separate parts of a sentence.

Today I bought sweets, popcorn, chocolate and a drink.



Speech marks are used to show when someone is talking.

"Who ate all the popcorn?" asked Kate.



A **question mark** is used at the end of a direct question.

Did you buy the cinema tickets?

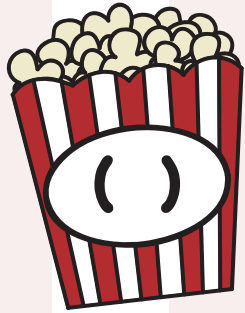


Apostrophes are used to show contractions and possession.

Don't eat all of Simon's popcorn.

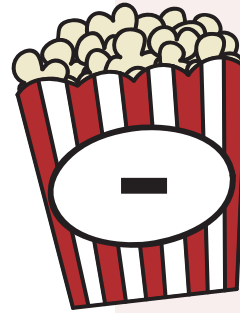
The perfect piece of writing needs lots of yummy punctuation.

Poppin' Punctuation



Brackets are used to include helpful but not necessary information.

I bought the tickets when we arrived (at 7pm).



Hyphens are used to join two words to make a single word.

Tonight's film was full of well-known actors.



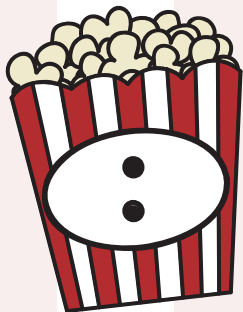
Semi-colons are used to join two main clauses in a sentence and separate long phrases in a list.

All popcorn is yummy; some more than others.



An **Ellipsis** is used to show: a missing word, a pause, an unfinished thought or silence.

The film will start in...5...4...3...2...1...



Colons are used to begin a list and before giving an example, instruction or explanation.

Please remember: turn your mobile phones off.



Punctuation is very important. It shows where your sentences begin and end and tells the reader how they should be read.

