

# The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

## Chapter 17 ~ How the Balloon Was Launched



Created by Gay Miller

I'm excited to announce that each Monday over the next 24 weeks; *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz Book Unit* will be featured in weekly blog posts. Saving each lesson for a novel study is a great option. Since students are so familiar with this well-loved American classic, most chapters can be stand-alone lessons. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* was originally published on May 17, 1900, so it is now in public domain. There is no need to purchase a class set of books because the complete text will be added to the unit plans.

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<http://bookunitsteacher.com/wp/>

# The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Genre: Classics and Fantasy

Interest Level ~ Grades 4 – 8

Grade level Equivalent: 6.9

Lexile Measure®: 1000L



## Scheduled Blog Posts for Materials Connected with The Wonderful Wizard of Oz Book Unit

Chapter 1 - The Cyclone	May 4, 2015
Chapter 2 - The Council with the Munchkins	May 11, 2015
Chapter 3 - How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow	May 18, 2015
Chapter 4 - The Road Through the Forest	May 25, 2015
Spoons Game with Root Words	May 28, 2015
Chapter 5 - The Rescue of the Tin Woodman	June 1, 2015
Chapter 6 - The Cowardly Lion	June 8, 2015
Chapter 7 - The Journey to the Great Oz	June 15, 2015
Chapter 8 - The Deadly Poppy Field	June 22, 2015
Chapter 9 - The Queen of the Field Mice	June 29, 2015
Pronoun Task Cards	July 2, 2015
Chapter 10 - The Guardian of the Gate	July 6, 2015
Chapter 11 - The Wonderful City of Oz	July 13, 2015
Chapter 12 - The Search for the Wicked Witch	July 20, 2015
Prefix Activity	July 23, 2015
Chapter 13 - The Rescue	July 27, 2015
Chapter 14 - The Winged Monkeys	August 3, 2015
Chapter 15 - The Discovery of Oz, the Terrible	August 10, 2015
Suffix Activity	August 13, 2015
Chapter 16 - The Magic Art of the Great Humbug	August 17, 2015
Chapter 17 - How the Balloon Was Launched	August 24, 2015
Punctuation Task Cards	August 27, 2015
Chapter 18 - Away to the South	August 31, 2015
Chapter 19 - Attacked by the Fighting Trees	September 7, 2015
Chapter 20 - The Dainty China Country	September 14, 2015
Analogy Activity	September 17, 2015
Chapter 21 - The Lion Becomes the King of Beasts	September 21, 2015
Chapter 22 - The Country of the Quadlings	September 28, 2015
Context Clues Task Cards	October 1, 2015
Chapter 23 - Glinda The Good Witch Grants Dorothy's Wish	October 5, 2015
Chapter 24 - Home Again	October 12, 2015

## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz By L Frank Baum Chapter 17 - How the Balloon Was Launched

For three days Dorothy heard nothing from Oz. These were sad days for the little girl, although her friends were all quite happy and **contented**. The Scarecrow told them there were wonderful thoughts in his head; but he would not say what they were because he knew no one could understand them but himself. When the Tin Woodman walked about he felt his heart rattling around in his breast; and he told Dorothy he had discovered it to be a kinder and more tender heart than the one he had owned when he was made of flesh. The Lion declared he was afraid of nothing on earth, and would gladly face an army or a dozen of the fierce Kalidahs.

Thus each of the little party was satisfied except Dorothy, who longed more than ever to get back to Kansas.

On the fourth day, to her great joy, Oz sent for her, and when she entered the Throne Room he greeted her pleasantly:

"Sit down, my dear; I think I have found the way to get you out of this country."

"And back to Kansas?" she asked eagerly.

"Well, I'm not sure about Kansas," said Oz, "for I haven't the **faintest notion** which way it lies. But the first thing to do is to cross the desert, and then it should be easy to find your way home."

"How can I cross the desert?" she inquired.

"Well, I'll tell you what I think," said the little man. "You see, when I came to this country it was in a balloon. You also came through the air, being carried by a cyclone. So I believe the best way to get across the desert will be through the air. Now, it is quite beyond my powers to make a cyclone; but I've been thinking the matter over, and I believe I can make a balloon."

"How?" asked Dorothy.

"A balloon," said Oz, "is made of silk, which is coated with glue to keep the gas in it. I have plenty of silk in the Palace, so it will be no trouble to make the balloon. But in all this country there is no gas to fill the balloon with, to make it float."

"If it won't float," remarked Dorothy, "it will be of no use to us."

"True," answered Oz. "But there is another way to make it float, which is to fill it with hot air. Hot air isn't as good as gas, for if the air should get cold the balloon would come down in the desert, and we should be lost."

"We!" exclaimed the girl. "Are you going with me?"

"Yes, of course," replied Oz. "I am tired of being such a humbug. If I should go out of this Palace my people would soon discover I am not a Wizard, and then they would be vexed

with me for having deceived them. So I have to stay shut up in these rooms all day, and it gets tiresome. I'd much rather go back to Kansas with you and be in a circus again."

"I shall be glad to have your company," said Dorothy.

"Thank you," he answered. "Now, if you will help me sew the silk together, we will begin to work on our balloon."

So Dorothy took a needle and thread, and as fast as Oz cut the strips of silk into proper shape the girl sewed them neatly together. First there was a strip of light green silk, then a strip of dark green and then a strip of emerald green; for Oz had a fancy to make the balloon in different shades of the color about them. It took three days to sew all the strips together, but when it was finished they had a big bag of green silk more than twenty feet long.

Then Oz painted it on the inside with a coat of thin glue, to make it airtight, after which he announced that the balloon was ready.

"But we must have a basket to ride in," he said. So he sent the soldier with the green whiskers for a big clothes basket, which he fastened with many ropes to the bottom of the balloon.

When it was all ready, Oz sent word to his people that he was going to make a visit to a great brother Wizard who lived in the clouds. The news spread rapidly throughout the city and everyone came to see the wonderful sight.

Oz ordered the balloon carried out in front of the Palace, and the people gazed upon it with much curiosity. The Tin Woodman had chopped a big pile of wood, and now he made a fire of it, and Oz held the bottom of the balloon over the fire so that the hot air that arose from it would be caught in the silken bag. Gradually the balloon swelled out and rose into the air, until finally the basket just touched the ground.

Then Oz got into the basket and said to all the people in a loud voice:

"I am now going away to make a visit. While I am gone the Scarecrow will rule over you. I command you to obey him as you would me."

The balloon was by this time tugging hard at the rope that held it to the ground, for the air within it was hot, and this made it so much lighter in weight than the air without that it pulled hard to rise into the sky.

"Come, Dorothy!" cried the Wizard. "Hurry up, or the balloon will fly away."

"I can't find Toto anywhere," replied Dorothy, who did not wish to leave her little dog behind. Toto had run into the crowd to bark at a kitten, and Dorothy at last found him. She picked him up and ran towards the balloon.

She was within a few steps of it, and Oz was holding out his hands to help her into the basket, when, crack! went the ropes, and the balloon rose into the air without her.

"Come back!" she screamed. "I want to go, too!"

"I can't come back, my dear," called Oz from the basket. "Good-bye!"

"Good-bye!" shouted everyone, and all eyes were turned upward to where the Wizard was riding in the basket, rising every moment farther and farther into the sky.

And that was the last any of them ever saw of Oz, the Wonderful Wizard, though he may have reached Omaha safely, and be there now, for all we know. But the people remembered him lovingly, and said to one another:

"Oz was always our friend. When he was here he built for us this beautiful Emerald City, and now he is gone he has left the Wise Scarecrow to rule over us."

Still, for many days they grieved over the loss of the Wonderful Wizard, and would not be comforted.

# The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ~ Chapter 17

1. The following are all idioms with the same meaning. They mean to

I haven't the faintest.  
I have no idea.

... not have the foggiest notion  
... not have the faintest notion  
... not have the faintest idea  
... not have the slightest idea

2. Write a sentence using one of these idioms.

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3. Write an antonym for faintest notion.

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4. Circle six words in the box that are synonyms or closely related to the word **contented**.

unfortunate	annoyed	gladdened	unsuitable
pleased	happy	upset	satisfied
angry	gratified	put out	comforted

5. Write a sentence using the word **contented**.

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6. Illustrate your sentence.

# The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ~ Chapter 17

1. The following are all idioms with the same meaning. They mean to **not know anything at all about something**.

I haven't the faintest.  
I have no idea.

... not have the foggiest notion  
... not have the faintest notion  
... not have the faintest idea  
... not have the slightest idea

2. Write a sentence using one of these idioms.

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3. Write an antonym for faintest notion.

**know all the answers**



4. Circle six words in the box that are synonyms or closely related to the word **contented**.

unfortunate

annoyed

**gladdened**

unsuitable

**pleased**

**happy**

upset

**satisfied**

angry

**gratified**

put out

**comforted**

5. Write a sentence using the word **contented**.

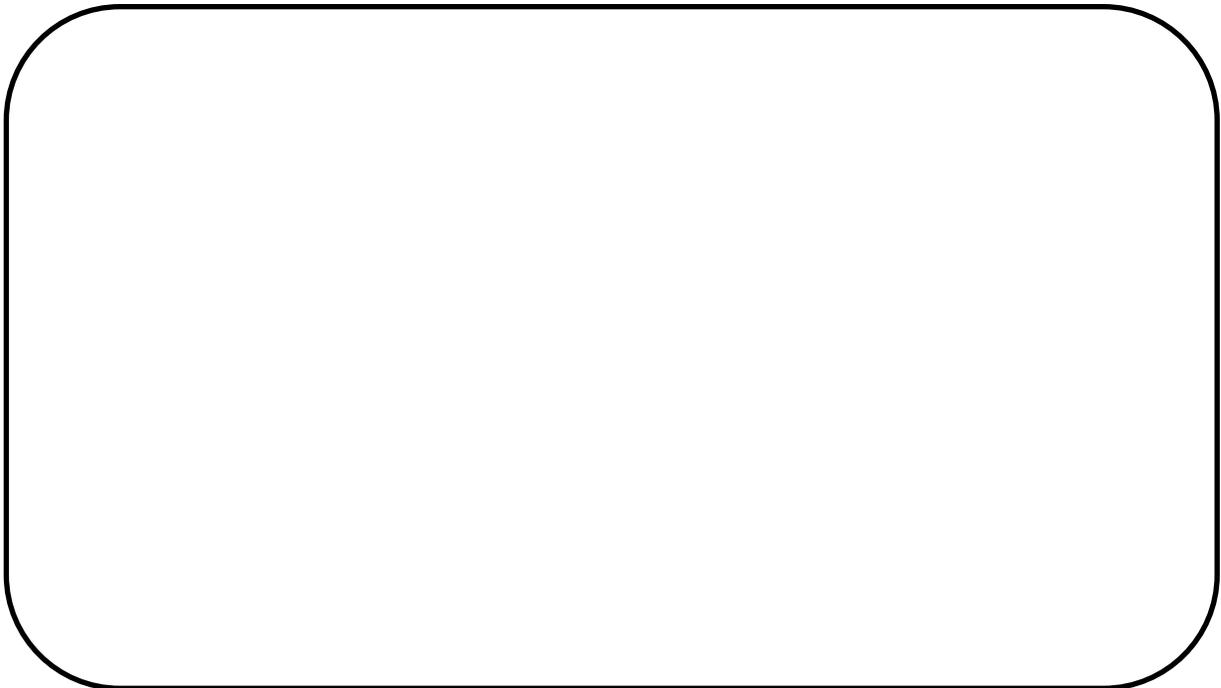
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6. Illustrate your sentence.

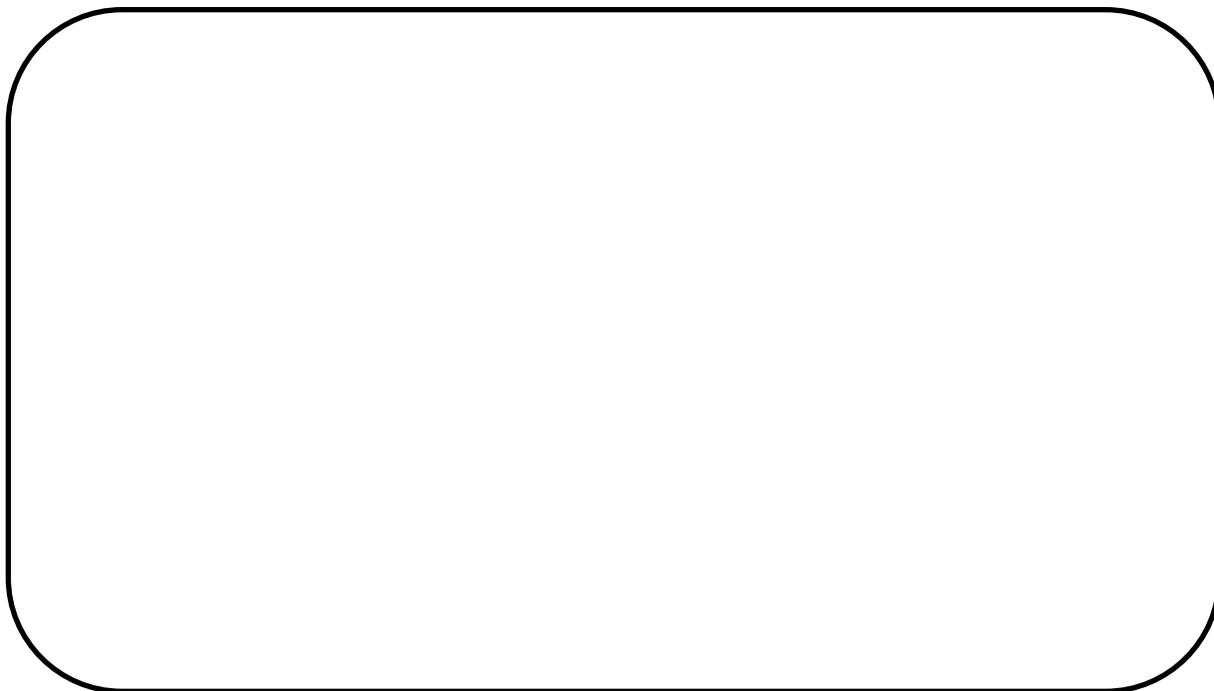
# The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ~ Chapter 17

1. The main idea in Chapter 17 was
  - a. Toto ran into the crowd.
  - b. Oz came up with an idea for getting Dorothy to Kansas.
  - c. The balloon flew away without Dorothy.
  - d. Oz cut silk strips while Dorothy sewed them together.
2. Which of the following events took place first?
  - a. They created a basket for the balloon.
  - b. Dorothy's friends were happy, but she was sad as she waited for news from Oz.
  - c. Oz told the people that Scarecrow would rule over them.
  - d. Dorothy and Oz created a balloon that could sail across the desert.
3. Which of the following events took place last?
  - a. They created a basket for the balloon.
  - b. Dorothy's friends were happy, but she was sad as she waited for news from Oz.
  - c. Oz told the people that Scarecrow would rule over them.
  - d. Dorothy and Oz created a balloon that could sail across the desert.
4. The effect of a kitten in the crowd was  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Draw a picture of Oz departing the Emerald City. Include details from the chapter in your picture.



# The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ~ Chapter 17

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the balloon took off without Dorothy.
5. Draw a picture of Oz departing the Emerald City. Include details from the chapter in your picture.



## Constructive Response ~ Chapter 17 Acrostic

Write an acrostic. Each line must tell about some event related to the balloon. The first letter of each line or paragraph must begin with the letter in the circle.



**B** \_\_\_\_\_

**A** \_\_\_\_\_

**L** \_\_\_\_\_

**L** \_\_\_\_\_

**O** \_\_\_\_\_

**O** \_\_\_\_\_

**N** \_\_\_\_\_

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1](#) Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.  
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.1](#) Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.  
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.1](#) Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

## Constructive Response ~ Chapter 17 Acrostic

Answers will vary.

Write an acrostic. Each line must tell about some event related to the balloon in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. The first letter of each line or paragraph must begin with the letter in the circle.



**B**

By the time Dorothy reached the balloon, it was already floating in the sky.

**A**

As Toto ran after a kitten, he was lost in the crowd.

**L**

Landing the balloon in the desert could be disastrous.

**L**

Leaving Toto behind was not an option.

**O**

Oz used a strip of light green silk, then a strip of dark green, and then a strip of emerald green to make the 20 foot balloon.

**O**

Oz cut the strips of silk into the proper shapes while Dorothy sewed them neatly together.

**N**

News spread to everyone in the Emerald City that Oz was going to make a trip to visit a great brother Wizard who lived in the clouds.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1](#) Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.1](#) Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.1](#) Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

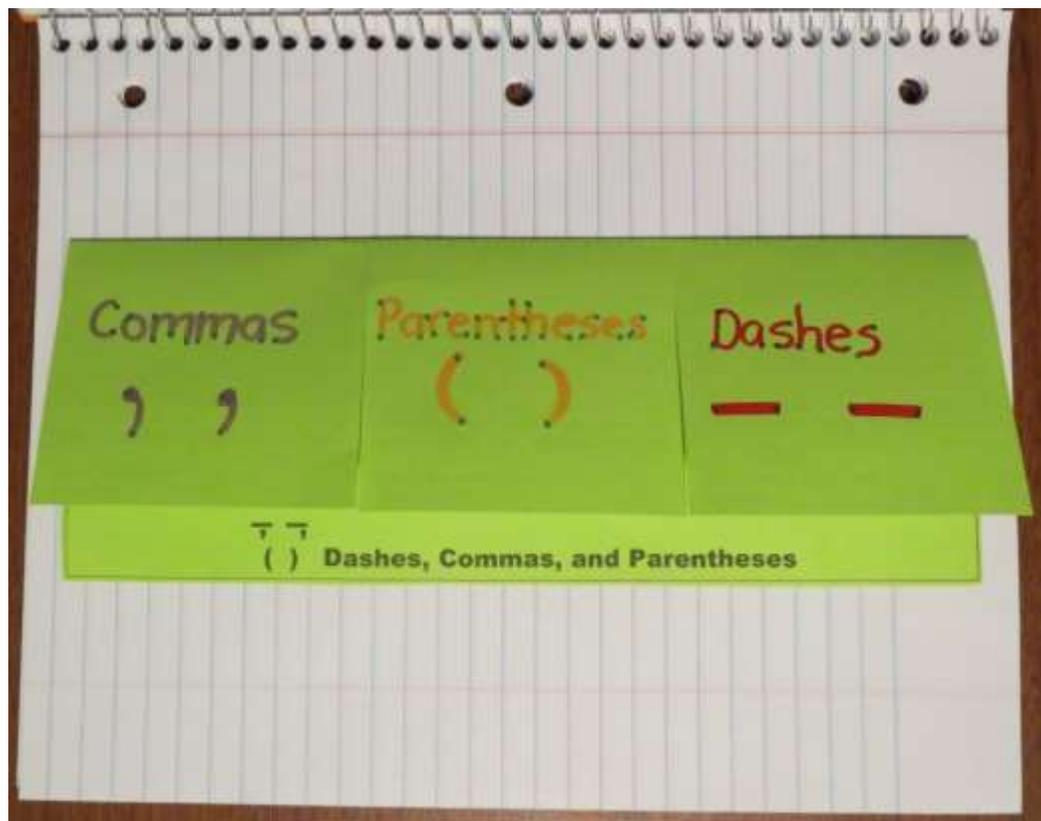
# Commas, Parentheses, & Dashes

## Organizer

Three versions of this organizer are offered: one with blanks for students to write their own sentences; one with the sentences provided but with blank spaces for students to write in key words; and one with the answers provided. The third copy of the organizer may be used as an answer key, for differentiated instruction, for students who were absent during instruction, or if you wish for the students to have the sentences already completed.

### Instructions

- Print organizer onto colored paper.
- Have students cut the organizer out on the lines indicated.
- After filling in the missing information, students will fold on the dotted line.
- Students cut on the solid line between the three flaps up to the dotted fold line so the organizer can open one flap at a time.
- Students may label the outside of each flap with the type of punctuation discussed.



Commas ~ Adds Comments

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Parentheses ~ De-emphasizes Comments

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Dashes ~ Emphasizes Comment

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Examples

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## Dashes, Commas, and Parentheses

Commas ~  
Adds Comments

Use commas \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ clauses that are related ( \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ ) to the main idea.

Parentheses ~  
De-emphasizes Comments

Parentheses are used to enclose comments that \_\_\_\_\_ of the sentence. The clause could be an \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or explain circumstances.

Dashes ~  
Emphasizes Comment

Dashes are used to separate a comment \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ related to the main idea. Dashes are used when \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or for an \_\_\_\_\_.  
Dashes should be used \_\_\_\_\_.

Examples

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Examples

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Examples

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## Dashes, Commas, and Parentheses

<p>Commas ~ Adds Comments</p> <p>Use commas before and after clauses that are closely related (description, clarification, or detail) to the main idea.</p>	<p>Parentheses ~ De-emphasizes Comments</p> <p>Parentheses are used to enclose comments that turn away from the main idea of the sentence. The clause could be an afterthought, side comment, or explain circumstances.</p>	<p>Dashes ~ Emphasizes Comment</p> <p>Dashes are used to separate a comment that is loosely related to the main idea. Dashes are used when interrupting, contrasting, or for an afterthought. Dashes should be used sparingly.</p>
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<p>Examples</p> <p>The Wicked Witch of the West, who enslaved the Winkies, must be killed.</p> <p>The Great Oz, who was just an ordinary man from Omaha, helped the people of Oz form a great city.</p> <p>Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies, with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife.</p>	<p>Examples</p> <p>The Wicked Witch of the West (unlike the Witches of the North and South) was mean to the people in her kingdom.</p> <p>The Great Oz (tired of hiding out from the people) wanted to return to his home.</p> <p>The Tin Woodman was about to reply when he heard a low growl, and turning his head (which worked beautifully on hinges) he saw a strange beast come bounding over the grass toward them.</p>	<p>Examples</p> <p>The Wicked Witch of the West – the evil tyrant – made slaves of the Winkies.</p> <p>The Great Oz – a blessing to the Winkies – was able to encourage Dorothy to take down the Wicked Witch.</p> <p>The cyclone had set the house down very gently--for a cyclone--in the midst of a country of marvelous beauty.</p>
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## Dashes, Commas, and Parentheses

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