



Understanding the Ellipsis

An ellipsis is a series of three dots (. . .) which shows that some text has been left out. Omitted material can include the passage of time, an unfinished thought, or text from a quotation that does not affect the meaning of the quotation.

DIRECTIONS: Read each sentence below. Identify what the ellipsis in each sentence indicates. Write the correct letter on the line.

A. passage of time B. an unfinished thought C. text from a quotation

- _____ 1. John really wanted to keep going, but he knew that without Jim . . .
- _____ 2. New people moved in . . . and out . . . and then someone else moved in.
- _____ 3. She was hesitant, but she said, "I do like you . . . but that doesn't change anything."
- _____ 4. The dog ran away . . . the cat had kittens . . . and we got a hamster.
- _____ 5. "I really want to go," Ann said. "it's just . . ."
- _____ 6. According to business coach Wyatt Miller, "The contract is probably one of the most important documents in business . . . without it, business could not effectively be done."
- _____ 7. Growing potatoes . . . is a fairly simple procedure.
- _____ 8. Night came and we dozed off . . . by the time we woke it was too late.
- _____ 9. Cheating is so . . . well there's no good reason for it, is what I mean.
- _____ 10. The ball soared into the air . . . and threw the goalposts for a 50 yard field goal.