One way to use the dash in punctuation is to signal an interruption, especially within a quotation. A dash is longer than a hyphen. To type a dash, either use two hypens (--) or the character called an em dash (—).

**EXAMPLE:** “I tried to ask permission,” Kim insisted. “But—”

The dash can work as ending punctuation; there is no period after a dash, and there are no spaces around a dash.

**DIRECTIONS:** Rewrite each sentence below, using a dash.

1. “If it hadn’t been for those pesky kids” the thief was saying, as the cops arrived.

2. Harry tried to speak, “I was under the impression”

3. Jack was saying, “I don’t expect Daniel” when Daniel walked in the door.

4. “As long as there are no” Sarah was about to say loud noises when the fireworks started.

5. “I will take care of” Wanda started to say, but her mother was emphatic: “No puppy!”

6. “On the contrary” Liam began, but no one wanted to hear it.