

**ENGLISH 10
UNIT III**

LESSON THREE: Parentheses ()

When using parentheses, you should keep two points in mind. Parentheses are the strongest separator. They also act to de-emphasize anything they set off. Thus, you should never use parentheses for an essential idea.

RULES FOR THE USE OF PARENTHESES

Rule One: Use parentheses to set off asides or explanations only when the material is not essential or when it consists of one or more sentences.

EXAMPLES: a. Actors try to empathize with (to share the feelings of) the characters they portray.

b. Alfred Hitchcock produced some masterful horror films (*The Birds*, *Psycho*, and *Rear Window*, among others) that are considered are now considered classics.

c. Matt Damon has one the Academy Award for best actor once. (She won it for *Good Will Hunting* in 2002.) He also won the People’s Choice Award for best actor.

d. _____

Rule Two: Use parentheses to set of numerical explanations such as dates of a person’s birth and death and around numbers and letters marking a series.

EXAMPLES: a. Babe Ruth (1895-1948) is probably the most famous baseball player.

b. My favorite movies include the following: (1) *Tommy Boy*, (2) *Grand Torino*, (3) *Lincoln Lawyer*.

c. _____

d. _____
