

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Parentheses

**Parentheses ( )** are often used in a sentence to show the reader that there is extra information. This information is not needed for the overall message.

**Examples:** My high score on the test (96) was the result of a lot of hard work and studying.

My lab partner (the one with the green shirt) is going to come over to help me study next week.

The information in the parentheses is **not of primary importance**. Why? The reader already knows that the first sentence refers to a “high” score because of context clues: “a result of a lot of hard work and studying.” The exact score is not of primary importance to the meaning of the sentence.

**Place parentheses around any information in the following sentences that is not of primary importance.**

1. Last year Nicole won second place at the science fair which isn't too bad with a display that showed how the heart pumped blood through the body.
2. This year she wanted everyone to look at her project and say “Wow!” and winning first place wouldn't hurt either.
3. Nicole did some research on the sizes and shapes of snowflakes always symmetrical, and found that snowflakes are formed by using mathematics.
4. For her project, Nicole drew large snowflake shapes and took pictures outside with her new DigiShot One-Step camera.
5. All the kids in the fourth grade loved her pictures and were curious to learn how snowflakes were made even Steven.
6. Although Nicole hoped to win first place, she would know in two days, she was happy enough with her project to be satisfied with whatever the results would be.