

The Dramatic Dash

James Bond Style



In informal writing, dashes can be used to separate two independent main clauses.

Look at the main clauses below. Join each 'first main clause' to its matching 'dramatic second clause' to make a sentence.

First Main Clause
His Aston Martin pulled into the car park —
James Bond scanned the room —
Miss Moneypenny smiled across the room —
He looked at his watch —

Dramatic Second Clause
his enemy was trying to disguise himself.
this was the secret signal he had been waiting for.
he had no idea of the danger he faced.
would he need to use the secret gadget to get him out of danger?

Write the sentences you have created below. Make sure to include the dramatic dash!

Example: It was a long wait – every minute felt like an hour.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

The Dramatic Dash

James Bond Style

In informal writing, dashes can be used to separate two independent main clauses.

Add a dash at the end of the clause and then add another main clause with some additional dramatic information, for example:

It was a long wait – every minute felt like an hour.

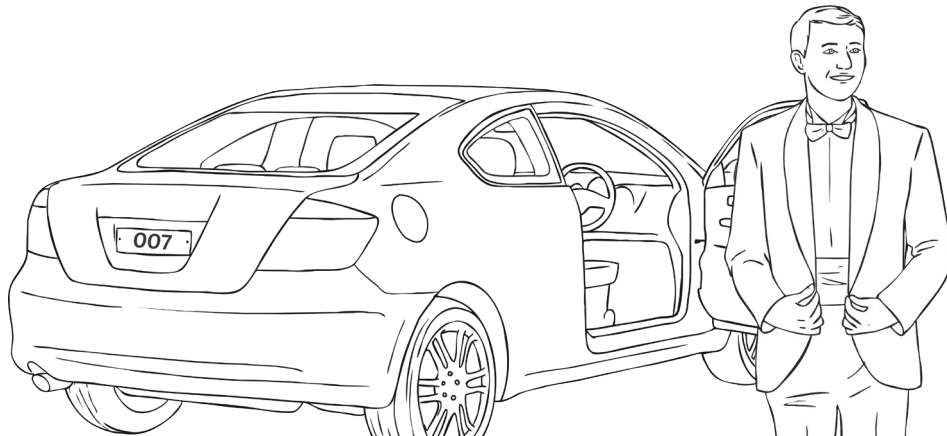
1. His Aston Martin pulled into the car park

2. James Bond scanned the room

3. The underground lair was quiet apart from the low hum of machinery

4. Miss Moneypenny smiled across the room

5. He looked at his watch



The Dramatic Dash

James Bond Style

In informal writing, dashes can be used to separate two independent main clauses or to add parenthesis within a sentence.



Look at the main clauses below:

- Either, add a dash at the end of the clause and then add another main clause with some additional dramatic information, e.g. It was a long wait – every minute felt like an hour.
- Or, add a pair of dashes into the sentence to demarcate an added word or phrase of parenthesis, e.g. James Bond – the international man of mystery – jumped straight over the car, rolled and ran off into the woods.

1. His Aston Martin pulled into the car park.

2. James Bond scanned the room.

3. The underground lair was quiet apart from the low hum of machinery.

4. Miss Money Penny smiled across the room.

5. He looked at his watch.

The Dramatic Dash

James Bond Style Example Answers

★

1. His Aston Martin pulled into the car park – he had no idea of the danger he faced.
2. James Bond scanned the room – his enemy was trying to disguise himself.
3. Miss Money Penny smiled across the room – this was the secret signal he had been waiting for.
4. He looked at his watch – would he need to use the secret gadget to get him out of danger?

★★

5. His Aston Martin pulled into the car park – he had no idea of the danger he faced.
6. James Bond scanned the room – his enemy was trying to disguise himself.
7. The underground lair was quiet apart from the low hum of machinery – it was unnervingly quiet.
8. Miss Money Penny smiled across the room – this was the secret signal he had been waiting for.
9. He looked at his watch – would he need to use the secret gadget to get him out of danger?

★★★

1. His Aston Martin pulled into the car park – he had no idea of the danger he faced.
2. James Bond – alert as always – scanned the room.
3. The underground lair – a sinister place – was quiet apart from the low hum of machinery.
4. Miss Money Penny – following the plan perfectly – smiled across the room.
5. He looked at his watch – would he need to use the secret gadget to get him out of danger?