**The Dash**

Use **dashes** to indicate abrupt breaks or changes in thought within sentences.

Ex: Who — **of all the people in this room —** would have done such a thing?

At the height of the eclipse **— wasn’t that a fantastic moment? —** there was an

eerie silence.

***Key Information***

**A. Punctuating Sentences with Dashes**

Insert and circle missing dashes in each of the following sentences.

**1.** That man in the corner how odd, I haven’t seen him for years looks like my uncle.

**2.** The Washingtons they must be delighted won a trip to the Grand Canyon.

**3.** Most of the houses on our street I think they were all designed by the same person look alike.

**4.** Winter is finally over and summer I thought it would never come is almost here.

**B. Interrupting Sentences Correctly**

Rewrite each of the following sentences. Use dashes to insert the parenthesized comments at an

appropriate place in each sentence.

**1.** The big concert is two weeks from Wednesday. *(let me know if you get tickets)*

**2.** The leading candidate will appear in a debate this week. *(and I certainly don’t see him*

*losing now)*

**3.** The vehicle ran the red light and crashed into a truck. *(the driver wasn’t paying attention)*

**4.** The woman over there is talking very loudly. *(I wonder if she knows people are staring)*

**C. Writing Sentences with Dashes**

Use each of the following phrases within dashes in a sentence.

**1.** *(it was a stunning upset)* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**2.** *(I was amazed)* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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