

Table 3.2 Categories of English punctuation

Type	Feature represented		Symbol		
	general	specific	name	form	
Boundary markers	grammatical units	word		space	(#)
		phrase; weaker clause		comma	,
		clause	closing	semicolon	;
			opening	colon	:
		sentence		full stop	.
Status markers	speech function	information exchange	statement		
			question	question mark	?
		other functions	command, offer, suggestion, exclamation, call, greeting	exclamation mark	!
	projection	quotation, citation	first order; or meaning	single quote	' '
			second order; or wording	double quote	" "
	Relation markers	any unit	apposition	dash	-
digression			parenthesis	()	
(compound) word		linkage	hyphen	-	
possessive, negative		omission	apostrophe	'	