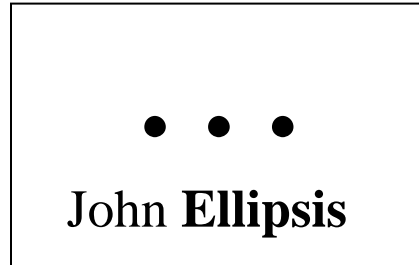




Concordia
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WANTED!

Aliases:

- Dr. **Suspension point**
- Captain **Points of ellipsis**
- Dot-dot-dot** (friends call him by this name)

Description:

Mr. Ellipsis often takes on the form of three dots (...) or asterisks (***) placed one after another and indicating an intentional omission of words.

Suspicious Activities:

Mr. Ellipsis has been seen replacing words in the beginning, middle, or end of sentences. When questioned about his intentions, Ellipses replied with this statement:

“I appear inside or at the end of quotes in order to omit unneeded and...cluttering information.”

Other Information:

- When using MLA format, use brackets to catch Mr. Ellipsis.
Example: I went to the bathroom and then went off to bed.
Correct use of ellipsis: I went to [...] bed.

In this sentence, an ellipsis is used to eliminate the unnecessary details of what the speaker accomplished immediately before going to bed.

- An ellipsis can also be used to indicate a pause in speech, an unfinished thought, or, at the end of a sentence, a trailing off into silence.
Example: “I fall asleep before I can even finish my...”

- An ellipsis can indicate when a person stops speaking in the middle of a word, as when one becomes speechless.
Example: Mrs. Jones called out, “Johnny, come get the gla...,” but was interrupted by flowerpot tipping over.
- If one or more words are omitted at the end of a quoted sentence, use three periods followed by the necessary terminal punctuation.
Example: “When do we go to the...?”
Example: “We mended walls....We finished in 1995.”
The writer omitted the unnecessary sentence, “There were a lot of walls.”

Be Aware:

Many dots claim to be the true John Ellipsis. Do not be fooled by these fakers. Just because three dots occur in a row does not mean that they form an ellipsis. Many have attempted to copy John Ellipsis’ style and have failed.

Example: “Crime rates have been rising steadily in the past, but...down.”

These copycat artists often leave out important words that help clarify the sentences in which they appear. They can be recognized as imposters here because the sentence doesn’t make sense when the words they replace are left out of the sentence.

Practice:

Try using an ellipsis to eliminate extra information. Practice makes perfect! If you are writing a research paper on bees and found this quote, how could you shorten it by using an ellipse?

Example:

“Bees, dogs, and people eat cheese, but that does not make it okay.”
-President Joe

Correct use of an ellipsis:

“Bees...eat cheese...”
-President Joe

Contact Us:

If you have any questions on how to catch ellipses, please contact our agency!

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Our sources:

-*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (studentabc.com)
-*The Chicago Manual of Style* (www.chicagomanualofstyle.org)