

## Ellipsis...

The Craft of Writing · By Simon Townsend · 1 min read

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You have not used the ellipsis correctly. An ellipsis is three fullstops or dots, like this . . . It's not four or five dots or a great string of them. The ellipsis is a punctuation mark. But it's NOT a substitute for a comma, dash or fullstop. An ellipsis has three different uses.

1. Primarily an ellipsis indicates words have been left out, usually left out of a quote.
2. An ellipsis can indicate suspense, such as: "And the winner is . . . Sydney."
3. An ellipsis can indicate a speaker trailing-off his sentence: "Well, I suppose, so but I, well I . . ."

To make an ellipsis, you put a space after the last word, then a dot, then a space, second dot, space, third dot and another space before the next word. Not this? but this . . .

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