

Tuesday 30th June 2020

I am learning to use parenthesis for clarity

Dentistry

Although Katie's dentist (Dr Disaster) was very skilled, he lost most of his customers because he was not very good at making nervous patients feel calm. Katie, being such a nervous patient that she never even dared to cancel an appointment, was now one of her dentist's only remaining patients.

Now, as Katie sat down in the dentist's chair, the light almost blinding her overhead, she thought about ways she could get herself out of this situation. Before she had chance to consider any of her possible options, Dr Disaster swivelled his chair round and looked at Katie's mouth.

"Now, hold your head back Katie," he said, as sweat dripped down his head, "I'm just going to grab my giant needle and mega crushing pliers and we'll have that rotten tooth out in no time. Well, obviously it will take some time as it's quite a big tooth. Well, actually, it's a massive tooth, so this will probably take quite a lot of time really. This is going to really hurt, Katie. Anyway, just give me a minute to stretch out, I need to warm up a little for this one".

As Dr Disaster turned and began stretching out his neck, Katie squirmed in her chair. She looked around the room. The window (left open just wide enough that she might be able to sneak out) now began to look much more appealing.

1a. What extra information is added in parenthesis in the first paragraph?

2a. Which paragraphs feature brackets to add extra information?

3a. The writer has chosen to add some extra detail in the sentence below.

As Dr Disaster turned and began stretching out his neck, Katie who was by now utterly terrified squirmed in her chair.

Tick where punctuation is needed to make the meaning clear.

4a. Underline any extra information from the final paragraph, which you could remove, so the story would still make sense.