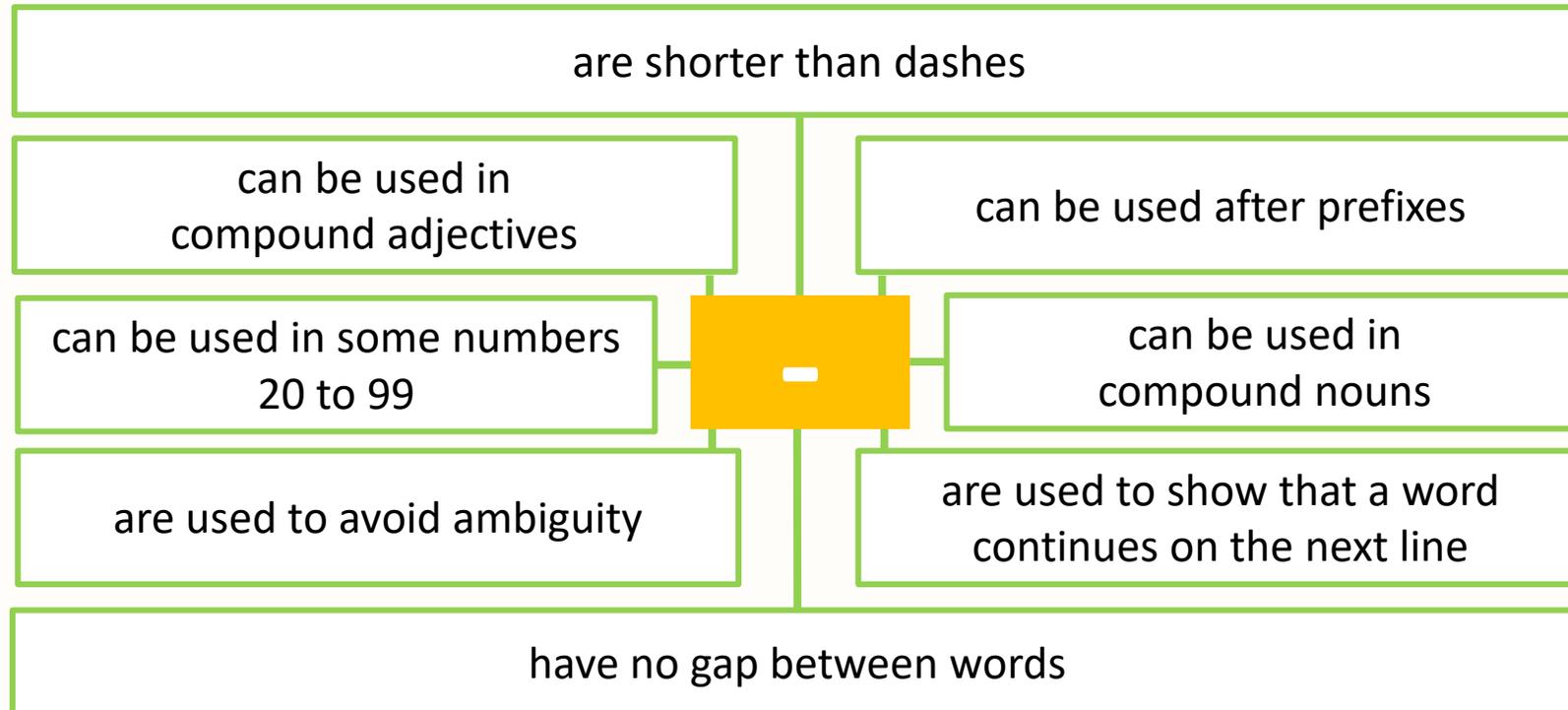


# Hyphens

What do you know about hyphens? Tell your partner.



**Do you and your partner agree?**

# Words Continuing on the Next Line

Read the following extract, identifying the hyphen:

We were lucky to go on the most amazing safari trip while we were on holiday in Africa. We saw elephants, lions and **rhino-ceroses**.

**We use hyphens to show that a word is continuing on the following line.**



# Numbers 20 to 99

Read the following sentences, identifying the hyphens:

“**Ninety-eight, ninety-nine**, one hundred. Coming ready or not!”



Joseph, my eldest brother, turned **twenty-one** last week.

We use hyphens in the numbers from twenty to ninety-nine where two numbers are put together to make another.

# Informal Phrases

Read the following sentences, identifying the hyphens:

I don't like those **wishy-washy** colours on you.

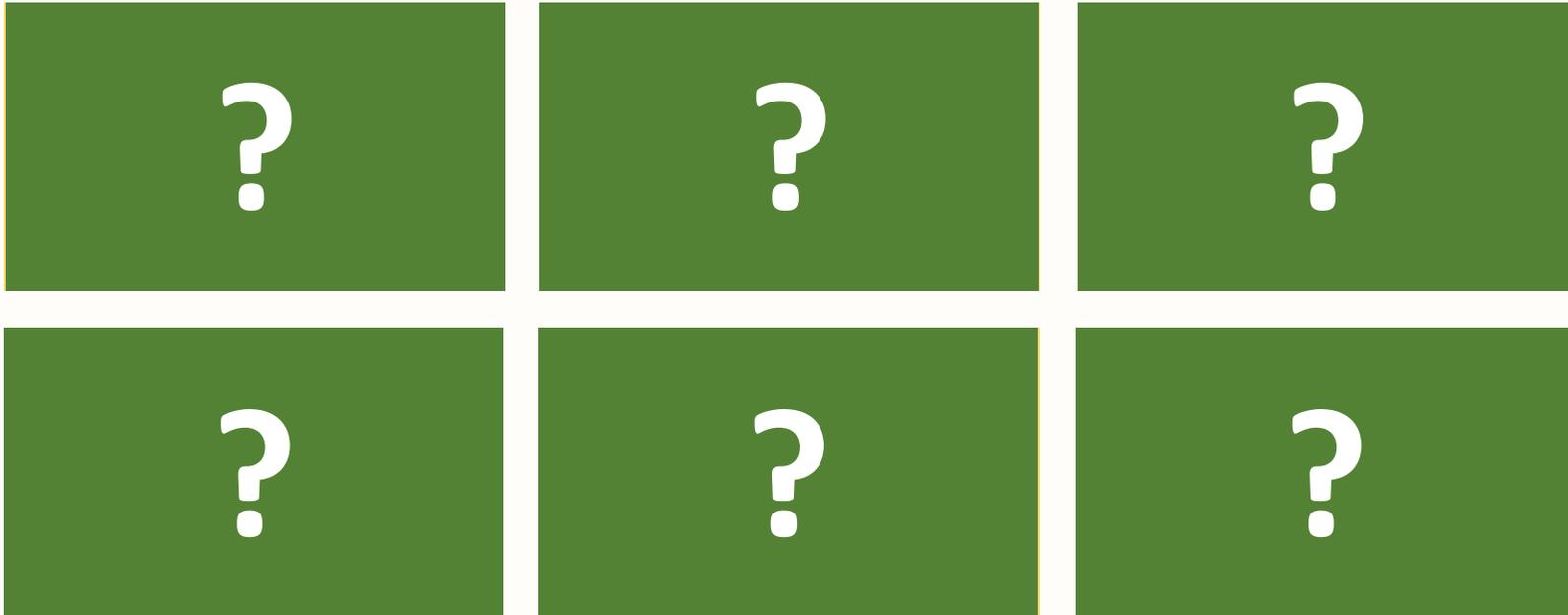
I can't stand her **lah-di-dah** attitude.

We use hyphens in informal phrases with words that are not usually used singly.



## Your Turn: Numbers and Informal Phrases

Choose a mystery box, then write a description of it including a number from twenty to ninety-nine or an informal phrase:



# Compound Nouns

Read the following sentences and identify which one has been written correctly.

I saw a young passer **by staring in through the window.**



**I saw a young passer-by** staring in through the window.



We use a hyphen to create a compound noun where if we didn't, it might get confusing.



# Compound Adjectives

Read the following sentences and identify which one has been written correctly.

The **tired looking** teacher slumped at his desk.



The **tired-looking** teacher slumped at his desk.



We use a hyphen to create a compound adjective before a noun.

# Compound Noun or Compound Adjective?

Sort the following words (by clicking on each one) depending on whether they are a compound noun or a compound adjective:

## Compound Nouns

## Compound Adjectives

passer-by

take-off

two-year-old

six-page

five-star

short-sleeved

bad-tempered

mother-in-law

dry-cleaning

check-out

second-hand

# Your Turn: Compound Nouns and Compound Adjectives

Choose a mystery box, then write a description of it including a compound noun  
or compound adjective.

?

?

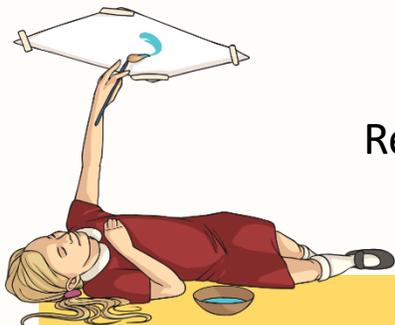
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?

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# Hyphens after Prefixes



Read the following sentences and identify where hyphens have been used and why.

The **all-knowing** genie granted my three wishes.



We painted **self-portraits** in our art lesson this afternoon. ?

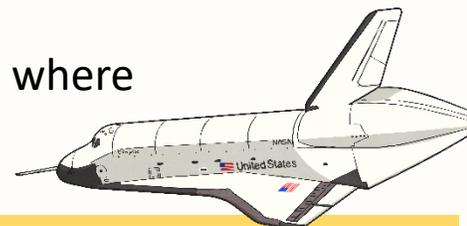


We usually use a hyphen after the prefixes all- and self-, as they make compound adjectives and nouns.

# Hyphens after Prefixes



Read the following sentences and identify where hyphens have been used and why.



We will **re-enter** the Earth's atmosphere soon.



We will reenter the Earth's atmosphere soon.



We sometimes need to use a hyphen with a word that has a prefix, to avoid doubling up a vowel and changing the pronunciation.

## Hyphens after Prefixes to Avoid Ambiguity



Read the following sentences and identify where hyphens have been used and why.

I had to **re-cover** my book when the cover got damaged.



I had to **recover** my book when the cover got damaged.



We sometimes need to use a hyphen within a word that has a prefix to avoid ambiguity (recover means something very different to re-cover).

## Hyphens after Prefixes to Avoid Ambiguity

Choose the appropriate word to complete these sentences.

Our teacher asked me to research / **re-search** my drawer to find my missing homework.

It is important to **recycle** / re-cycle as much as possible.

Mrs Cook said that she was going to remark / **re-mark** the tests because the scores all seemed quite low.

Marek is an excellent goalkeeper because he has quick **reflexes** / re-flexes.

# Your Turn: Hyphens after Prefixes

Can you write a description of this photo using a hyphen after a prefix?



The astronaut had to re-cover the control panel after it was damaged. He was not able to recover the missing piece.

# Your Turn: Hyphens after Prefixes

Can you write a description of this photo using a hyphen after a prefix?



Although space is infinite, we will re-enter the Earth's atmosphere soon.

# Hyphens Quick Quiz 1

Put hyphens into these sentences.

I've got a **four-year-old** brother and a **six-year-old** sister.

Our teacher always talks in a **sing-song** voice.

It is important to **co-operate** when playing a team game.

My mum said she had **re-sent** the message to my auntie when she didn't get a reply.

Why have the hyphens been used?  
Discuss with your partner.



# Hyphens Quick Quiz 2

Do these sentences have the correct punctuation? If not, correct them.

I woke up at six **twenty-five** this morning!



My dog has **bluey-grey** eyes.



Casey's **self-esteem** was improving as she got to know more people.



Why have the hyphens been used? Discuss with your partner.