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Section:

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## 10-Sentence Story Challenge: Punctuation Mastery Mission



**Prompt:** Write a 10-sentence story about a character who discovers a secret passage in their school.

**Sentence 1** — Use a **semicolon** to connect two related independent clauses.

*Example: Jamie stayed after class to grab her notebook; that's when she noticed the floorboard was loose.*

**Sentence 2** — Use an **exclamation mark** for emphasis or surprise, but make it earned.

*Example: She pried it up—and found a dark, spiraling tunnel beneath the classroom floor!*

**Sentence 3** — Ask a **rhetorical question** using a question mark.

*Example: What kind of school hides a tunnel under Room 17?*



**Sentence 4** — Include a **comma** in a **compound sentence**.

*Example: She hesitated for a moment, but curiosity won.*

**Sentence 5** — Use **dialogue** with both **quotation marks** and a **tag interruption**.

*Example: "This," Jamie whispered, her voice trembling, "is either a prank or a trap."*



**Sentence 6** — Use **parentheses** to add commentary or a side thought.

*Example: The steps creaked (loud enough to wake the dead), but she kept moving.*

**Sentence 7** — Use a **colon** to introduce a list, idea, or explanation.

*Example: On the stone wall, someone had written a single word: "RUN."*



**Sentence 8** — Use an **apostrophe** in a contraction and a possessive.

*Example: She didn't believe the school's ghost stories—until now.*

**Sentence 9** — Use an **em dash** for dramatic interruption or emphasis.

*Example: A hand reached out of the shadows—grabbing her shoulder.*



**Sentence 10** — Use an **ellipsis** to suggest suspense, trailing thought, or something left unsaid.

*Example: She turned around slowly, heart pounding... and then everything went dark.*

