ENG 2PI Punctuation& Grammar Research Worksheet

**Level of Completeness & Accuracy:**

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| Our topic is:  … (Ellipses) | What does it do?  Ellipses are used to take something out of a quotation, to make it shorter and simpler. |
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| Rules (with examples):  **Rule 1: Replacing words**  Write out the quotation as you normally would, and then when you take out a word or series of words, it should be replaced with an ellipses.  “The cute and cuddly yellow dog.” can become “The … yellow dog.”  **Rule 2: Multiple ellipses**  You can have multiple ellipses within a quotation.  “That is the cute and cuddly yellow dog running down the hill found a bone.” can become “That … yellow dog … found a bone.”  **Rule 3: Ellipses at the end of a sentence**  If an ellipsis ends a sentence, you would need a fourth dot following it to indicate the period.  “That is the cute and cuddly yellow dog running down the hill” can become “That is the cute and cuddly yellow dog….”  **Rule 4: Writing with integrity**  A responsible writer must not change the meaning of a quotation by using ellipses.  “The dog did not find a bone” cannot become “The dog did … find a bone” because it changes the meaning of the original quotation. | |
| Common mistakes, and how to fix them:  **Informal pauses**  Ellipses are commonly used to signify a pause, or someone losing their train of thought within informal conversations, texts, emails, or instant messages.  Ellipses, or using … in a conversation without a quotation is not the correct use. | |
| Exercises for the class:  Rewrite the following sentences, replacing the underlined segments with ellipses.   1. The film is Elvis Presley’s best film as far as musical sequences go, but it is still burdened by a snappy plot. 2. The movie is an engaging screwball musical comedy about a baseball player who tries to win the affection of a bright and lively singing star. 3. Jason King stars as a government investigator sent to uncover a security leak that led to the destruction of the space laboratory. | |