



## The Slash as Punctuation



While not often used in formal writing, the slash (/) as a punctuation symbol serves important purposes:

- As an abbreviation symbol. Example w/o for *without* or s/o for *son of*.
- As a substitute for words like “and,” “or,” and “per.” Examples: 30 miles/hour, his/her
- As a way to show variable spellings for a word or phrase: Example: Johnson/Jonson/Jonsson

Rewrite each sentence below using a slash.

1. He was the husband of Agnes Miller.

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2. The male and female ratio of the class was 1:2.

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3. Gilbert was elected secretary and treasurer of the bowling league.

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4. I wrote “not applicable” on the form.

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5. We use the basement as an office and a game room.

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6. Sacagawea or Sakakawea or Sacajawea was part of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

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Rewrite each sentence below using a slash.

**Actual student's answers may vary. Example of correct answers:**

1. He was the husband of Agnes Miller.

**He was the h/o Agnes Miller.**

2. The male and female ratio of the class was 1:2.

**The M/F ratio of the class was 1:2.**

3. Gilbert was elected secretary and treasurer of the bowling league.

**Gilbert was elected secretary/treasurer of the bowling league.**

4. I wrote “not applicable” on the form.

**I wrote “N/A” on the form.**

5. We use the basement as an office and a game room.

**We use the basement as an office/game room.**

6. Sacagawea or Sakakawea or Sacajawea was part of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

**Sacagawea /Sakakawea/Sacajawea was part of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.**