

Punctuation

Meryl Streep plays Eleanor Shaw, a venomous US senator, in Jonathan Demme's remake of the 1962 thriller *The Manchurian Candidate*. The picture is populated largely by nervous, creepy or inconsequential men, and Streep cuts through them like the Grim Reaper's scythe; everyone wilts in her presence. "I've never has a part like this!" she whoops. "I get to drive a locomotive through the first half of the movie."

Line 1. Commas around - a venomous US senator.

These are Boundary Markers, according to Michael Newby's (1989) *Writing: A guide for Students'* definitions. They are there to separate an aside in the initial sentence, the reader can then take a breather when reading and see that this part of the sentence is an interruption within the sentence as a whole.

Line 1. Apostrophe use in - Demme's.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) *Writing: A guide for Students'* definitions. This Apostrophe is there to show possession for the reader to understand that there are not 'more than one' Demmes, yet infact the film *The Manchurian Candidate*, is grammatically 'belonging to' Demme.

Line 2. Full stop after - Candidate.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) *Writing: A guide for Students'* definitions. This is there to signify the end of the sentence as a whole. The sentence makes full sense even if taken out of the context of the piece of writing and is therefore complete.

Line 3. Comma following - nervous.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. This is there in order to give the reader a 'breath' while reading a list or 'items in a series' as defined in the text; The Importance of Correct Punctuation (<http://geocities.com/SoHo/Square/1521/punctuate.html?200514>).

Line 3. Comma following - men.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. This is there to once again give the reader a 'breath' or short pause. In this case it is also to join two separate phrases in the sentence, joined by 'and'.

Line 4. Apostrophe use in - Reaper's.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. This Apostrophe is there to show possession for the reader to understand that there are not 'more than one' Reapers, yet in fact the scythe, is grammatically 'belonging to' the Grim Reaper. As this is a noun made up of more than one word the convention is that the 's' is placed on the end of the final word in the series.

Line 4. Semi-colon following - scythe.

This is a boundary marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. It is a symbol used in place of an 'and' in this case signifying a close relationship between the two phrases is links.

Line 4. Full stop after - presence.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. This is there to signify the end of the sentence as a whole. The sentence makes full sense even if taken out of the context of the piece of writing and is therefore complete.

Line 4. Quotation marks surrounding the sentence - I've never had a part like this!

These are labelling markers and can also be classed as boundary markers; they are there to show both the beginning and end of a piece of spoken word. The text in question has been spoken, out-loud by the subject of the text, Meryl Streep.

Line 4. Apostrophe use in - I've.

This is a deleting marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. The apostrophe in this instance is used to show omission of a letter(s) or contraction of two words. The two words 'I' and 'have', have been contracted into one new word I've. We use the apostrophe in this case to show that the letters 'h' and 'a', have been omitted.

Line 5. Exclamation mark following - this.

This is an attitude marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. It is used to show emphasis on a certain word, commonly to show the word has been spoken with emotion.

Line 5. Full stop following - whoops.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. This is there to signify the end of the sentence as a whole. The sentence makes full sense even if taken out of the context of the piece of writing and is therefore complete.

Line 5. Quotation marks surrounding the sentence – I get to drive ... of the movie.

These are again boundary markers as well as labelling markers, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. They are once again there to show that the sentence in question has been spoken out-loud by the subject of the text; namely Meryl Streep.

Line 6. Full stop following - movie.

This is a labelling marker, according to Michael Newby's (1989) Writing: A guide for Students' definitions. This is there to signify the end of the sentence as a whole. The sentence makes full sense even if taken out of the context of the piece of writing and is therefore complete. This is placed inside the quotation marks, due to the fact that the sentence was completed when spoken and not merely for the benefit of the text.