

Worksheet 6: Commas

Date: _____

➤ Rule# 1:

When a sentence begins with a subordinate clause, it has a comma after it. When the sentence begins with a main clause, there is no comma to separate it from the dependent clause.

- Because the weather was awful, we didn't enjoy the day.

* Add a comma where needed.

1. Before the bell rang, the teacher collected the books.
2. Although I am not a very good football player, I enjoyed playing football.
3. I will plant more trees while the flowers bloom. (No comma)
4. After Troy ate a giant cookie, he got a stomach ache.
5. Unless you have the right size, do not try on the shoe.

➤ Rule# 2:

Place a comma after introductory words or phrases that tell where, when, why, or how.

- On the way home, I decided to travel to Scotland during the holiday.
- On Christmas, we will visit our grandparents.
- Because of the bad weather, we couldn't play outside.
- With a hammer, he knocked down the wall.
- Wow, your handwriting is amazing!

* Add a comma where needed.

1. Seriously, did you make this cake from scratch?
2. Throwing the ball, she pulled a muscle in her arm.
3. Yes, I do need that report.
4. Well, I never thought you would clean your room.
5. Hello, my name is Anna.

➤ Rule# 3:

Add a comma before and after an appositive. An appositive is a noun or pronoun that renames or identifies another noun or pronoun in some way. An appositive phrase consists of an appositive and its modifiers.

- Lizzy, one of the 10 finalists, won the game.

* Circle the appositive and add the commas where needed.

1. Jessica took her kitten, Lucy, to the vet.
2. Mom will make my favorite meal, spaghetti, for my birthday.
3. Jonathan, the boy in the blue baseball cap, is my new friend.
4. Chocolate, my favourite treat, always makes me happy.

➤ **Rule# 4:**

Use commas to separate words and word groups in a simple series of three or more items.

- The teacher asked us to bring our copybook, course book and workbook to school every day.

* **Add a comma where needed.**

1. I like to put pepperoni, mushrooms and onions on my pizza.
2. Ann is wearing a dress that is pink, purple and white.
3. Tommy plays basketball, tennis and football.

➤ **Rule # 5: Refer to Worksheet 5: Direct Speech**

* **Add a comma where needed along with speech marks.**

1. "I'm coming home late tonight," she said.
2. She asked, "Am I late?"
3. "Don't forget your jacket," said mom.
4. "It's really stormy out there," said Tom.

Let's practice!

1. Insert commas where they belong in each sentence and add capital letters where needed.

a. After finishing my homework, I went to my favourite restaurant with my friends. (subordinate clause)

b. Seattle, the largest city in Washington, gets a lot of rain. (appositive)

c. After supper, I need to read a book, practice the piano and brush my teeth.

d. While the flowers bloom, I will plant more trees. (subordinate clause)

e. I like volleyball, hockey, baseball and swimming. (List)

f. Our house is warm, welcoming and clean. (List)

g. When the principle arrives, she will give a speech. (subordinate clause)

h. After school, I will go to the gym and meet my friends. (Introductory phrase)

i. Emily's oldest dog, Lucy, is a poodle. (appositive)

j. Unless you have the right size, do not try on the shoe. (subordinate clause)

k. "I am not sure," confessed Mr. Tony. "What do you think Peter?"

l. "I'm going upstairs George," shouted Hillary. "Do you need anything?"

m. "The animals of the rainforest are fascinating," declared Helen.

n. "In the morning," Tom announced, "there will be no race."