

Even more comma
rules!!!!

COMMAS!!!!!!

Learning Target

- Use commas accurately and effectively in our writing.

1. with appositives

Use a comma or commas to set off an appositive if not closely tied to the words it equals or identifies.

- Larry Millward, my best friend, will speak at the meeting.
- My brother Ken moved to Hawaii.
(closely tied)

2. With co-ordinate adjectives

- 2. Use a comma to separate co-ordinate adjectives. Co-ordinate adjectives can be checked to see if a comma is necessary by placing *and* between them. They will sound smooth and correct with the “*and*.”
- The warm, sunny day made everyone happy. (warm and sunny sounds smooth - comma)
- You are a clever little girl. (clever and little doesn't sound smooth – no comma)

3. Parenthetical expressions

Use commas to set off parenthetical expressions. Parenthetical expressions are words inserted in the main sentence but not necessary to the meaning. They interrupt the flow of the sentence. Common expressions used parenthetically are *however, of course, on the other hand, in fact, for example, that is, by the way, after all, perhaps, indeed, also, too, nevertheless*. **These expressions are not always parenthetical.**

- Lucy, on the other hand, reads little.
- He knows, perhaps, five answers to the questions.

If they are being used as a conjunction, then they are NOT parenthetical expressions.

4. Participial phrase

Use a comma after an introductory *participial phrase*.

- Feeling hot, Lexi ran to the refrigerator for a drink.
- Needing help, immediately Alyssa dialed 911.



5. Introductory infinitives

Use a comma after an introductory *infinitive* used as an adjective.

- To find her ring, Sarah removed everything from the room



6. Dependent clauses (complex sentence!)

Use a comma after an introductory
dependent adverb clause.

- If you want to see the Olympics, order your tickets now.

7. Prepositional phrases

Use a comma after long introductory *prepositional phrases* or two or more consecutive *prepositional phrases*.

- At the entrance to the cave, the guide gave us instructions.
- During those hot, boring summer days, time passed very slowly.

8. Nonrestrictive clauses and phrases

Use commas to set off nonrestrictive clauses and phrases. Nonrestrictive clauses and phrases are modifiers that can be omitted without changing the meaning of the main clause.

- Our new boat, which we bought last week, is a pleasure to use. (We can omit “which we bought last week” and the sentence still makes sense.)
- The new baby, delivered in the taxi, changed our lives completely.

9. Coordinating conjunctions (compound sentences!)

Use a comma before the coordinate conjunctions that join independent clauses in a compound sentence.

- Elijah will leave on the next flight, but Sayan will join him in a week



Download Comma Activity

2

- Complete