

January 21, 2020 –comma day 😊

- Homework: quiz comma rules & usage, booklet 1/23/2020
- If your articles and analysis questions are not finished—tomorrow at 8:15
- Take out your comma packet & booklet
- get your journal- 2<sup>nd</sup> side of prompts—put your name on the margin
- Put your other belonging under your desk and begin today's writing.
- Choose a topic—date it
- be sure to provide the date and topic at the top of the page
- Page number at the bottom of the page
- It's a new page for each new day

# COMMAS!

COMMA RULES TO  
MAKE YOU A BETTER  
WRITER

# RULE

In a series of 3 or more...

I like nachos , burritos , and tamales .

3 items = 2 commas

I brought my sleeping bag , sleeping pad ,  
Nalgene bottle , and a tent on the trip .

4 items = 3 commas

# RULE

When 2 or more adjectives precede a noun... Coordinate adjectives

Sara found a *slimy, wet, squishy* slug in her sleeping bag.

3 adjectives before the noun = 2 commas

# RULE

2 tests for coordinate adjectives

1. Put and in between the adjectives
2. Switch the order of the adjectives

Sara found a **slimy and wet** and **squishy** slug in her sleeping bag.

Sara found a **squishy, wet, slimy** slug in her sleeping bag.

- Does the sentence make sense if the adjectives are switched in order?
- Does the sentence make sense if the adjectives are written with *and* between them?
- If you answer yes to these questions, then the adjectives are coordinate and should be separated by a comma.
- Here are some examples of coordinate and non-coordinate adjectives:

He was a difficult, stubborn child. (coordinate)

They lived in a white frame house. (non-coordinate)

She often wore a gray wool shawl. (non-coordinate)

Your cousin has an easy, happy smile. (coordinate)

# RULE QUOTES

- Use commas to set off explanatory words
- (such as *Rachel said,*
- *replied Maggie,*
- *announced Tim*) of a direct quotation.



# RULE

## QUOTES - QUOTATION MARKS

"So far," **began Elissa**, "English has been very enlightening."

Gasping for breath, **Tristan announced**,  
"The pigeons pecked at my ankles and  
chased me across the street."



# \*\*RULE

## TOO MEANS ALSO

-Use commas to separate "too" from the rest of the sentence when it can be replaced by the word "also."

# RULE #3

## TOO MEANS ALSO

I want to go to Steve's for dinner, **too**.

Running 26.2 miles would make my legs ache, **too**.

# RULE IN DATES

-Use commas between the day of the month and the year.

\*\*\*In a sentence, the comma follows the year.

# RULE IN DATES

December 6 , 2007

October 31 , 1989 , was the last Halloween that I went "trick-or-treating."

# RULE

## IN ADDRESSES

- Use commas between the name of the city or town and the name of its state or country and the rest of the sentence.
- In writing the address in a sentence, use a comma after each item (**Except** between state and zip code).

# RULE

## IN ADDRESSES

Sydney, Australia sounds like a wonderful place to visit.

Mail the package to 1234 Candy Cane Ln, Hopkins, MN 55305.

# RULE--LETTER

Use commas after the greeting and closing of a letter.

Dear Mom,

I love your home cooking!

With love,

Timmy



# RULE

## DIRECT ADDRESS

-Use commas to set off the nouns of a direct address (or, the name of someone directly spoken to).

# RULE

## IN DIRECT ADDRESS

Explain to us, **Mr. Writer**, why you felt the need to rewrite your novel five times before publishing.

Good afternoon, **Suet**!

# RULE

## INTERJECTIONS

- Use commas before and/or after words that are interjected into sentences. Interjection words include *yes, no, well, oh.*

# RULE

## INTERJECTIONS

**Yes,** I would love to go see High School Musical on Ice!

**Well,** I wasn't sure whether the note was from him or not, so I threw it away!

# RULE

## INTRODUCTORY WORDS/PHRASES

- Use commas to separate introductory words or phrases from the rest of the sentence.

# RULE

## INTRODUCTORY WORDS/PHRASES

Key words that indicate an introductory phrase – *when, while, after, before, if, so, since.*

If these words begin a sentence, use a comma after the phrase, but ignore them in the middle of a sentence.

# RULE

## INTRODUCTORY WORDS/PHRASES

**Since** hearing the prognosis, **I have been** a nervous wreck.

After the movie, we went for ice cream.

Unfortunately, the game cannot be rescheduled.

# RULE

## INTERRUPTERS (PARENTHETICAL EXPRESSIONS)

- Use commas to set off words or groups of words that interrupt the flow of thought in a sentence.



# RULE #

## INTERRUPTERS (PARENTHETICAL EXPRESSIONS)

I, **on the other hand**, love to eat chocolate cookies.

Change, I believe, is life's only constant.

Learning about commas, for example, helps us become better writers.

# RULE

## NONESSENTIAL APPOSITIVES

- Use commas to set off appositives. An appositive is a noun or phrase that comes immediately after another Proper or specific noun that gives more information about that noun

# RULE

## NONESSENTIAL APPOSITIVES

Sally, **my neighbor**, sells seashells by the seashore. (proper noun = nonessential)

Emily Fox, a standout guard for the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers, is a world champion cup stacker.

# RULE

## COMPOUND SENTENCES

-Use a comma before the conjunction that joins two independent sentences.

(Sentence = Subject + Verb)

Conjunctions = FANBOYS  
*For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So*

# RULE #12

## COMPOUND SENTENCES

Rebecca wants to learn to play the guitar,  
**but** her guitar only has two strings.

James dreams of becoming a rock star,  
so he rehearses every day.

# RULE

## NONESSENTIAL PHRASES

- Use a comma to separate a phrase (*an explanatory group of words without a subject and/or verb*) from the rest of the sentence.

# RULE

## Nonessential PHRASES

Running through the woods, I tripped on a log and scraped my knee.

The window, cracked from the cold, needed to be replaced.

# RULE

## NONESSENTIAL CLAUSES

- Use a comma to separate a clause (a group of words with its own subject and verb) from the rest of the sentence.



# RULE

## NONESSENTIAL CLAUSES

The snow storm, which was the worst of the year, made driving terrible.

My neighbor, who lives in a tent, values the preservation of our environment.

# Rule: Contrast

- Before & after words, phrases, or clauses that contradict or contrast
- He was merely ignorant, not stupid.
- The chimpanzee seemed reflective, almost human.
- You're one of the senator's close friends, aren't you?

# Ready? Piece of paper.

Write your name, period, date, student #

Write the rule for the following examples.

Use your comma booklet rules

Skip a line in between each answer

# Ready? Piece of paper.

1. Write the rule for the following example.

“I wish I had a favorite Webkins, but I don’t,” says Isabella” (Marketing to Kids Gets More Savvy with New Technologies” 120).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

2. Write the rule for the following example.

However, clothing (42% and entertainment, like movie tickets (33%) have become bigger priorities for this older groups" (\$211 Billion and So Much to Buy" 88).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

3. Write the rule for the following example.

Mrs. Figueiredo, I could not find an example of this rule in the articles in our text book.

(yes, you need to write your own for this one)

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

4. Write the rule for the following example.

“The researchers found that napping improved memory, but not alertness” (Allegra 1).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

5. Write the rule for the following example.

“I wish I had a favorite Webkinz, but I don't, says Isabella” (“Marketing to Kids Gets More Savvy with New Technologies” 120).



# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

6. Write the rule for the following example.

“Kids, who are spending less time watching TV and more time on computers or smartphones, are becoming targets online” (“Marketing to Kids Gets More Savvy with New Technologies” 117).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

7. Write the rule for the following example.

- “By the mid-1990s, direct marketing, promotions, and sponsorships actually accounted for 80 percent of marketing dollars” (*The Center for a New American Dream 93*).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

8. Write the rule for the following example.

- “Sleep might seem like a footnote to the story of a player’s development, but it’s a booming topic in the sports analytics community” (“NBA + Z’s=W’s” 22).

## **Skip a line—write the number and the rule**

9. “Dr. Daniel Vessler, M.D.” (“Ask the Sleep Doctor” 1).

10. “New York, N.Y. – October 26, 2011” (“\$211 Billion and So Much to Buy” 88).

11. “The fourth-grader from Davis, Calif., spends almost an hour a day on the Webkinz website” (“Marketing to Kids Gets More Savvy with New Technologies” 116).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

12. Write the rule for the following example.

- “Although sleep needs vary from person to person, the chart below show the general recommendations for different age groups” (*The National Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute 1*).

# Skip a line—write the number and the rule

13. Write the rule for the following example.

With over 23 million teens in the United States, that's a lot of influence" (\$211 Billion and So Much to Buy" 88).

# #14 –no example from text book articles

- Well, everyone loves knowing more about commas because it improves clarity.