

USES OF COMMAS

IN

ENGLISH GRAMMAR



Comma in English Grammar

Welcome, young learners, to the exciting world of grammar! Today, we're going to discover one of the most commonly used Punctuation Marks in the English language: the Comma. So, grab your pencils and let's dive in!

What are Comma? - Definition

A comma in a sentence is a kind of punctuation mark that is mainly used for the separation of phrases, clauses, ideas or words. It mainly represents several listicle objects in a line by putting the Punctuation mark (,) after each object. In this way, it presents a small break in a given sentence as per the requirement.

Uses of Comma

Students must have used this Punctuation in the Grammatical sentences but they must know about the uses of Commas

Separating Independent Clauses

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction (and, yet, but, so, or, for, nor) when it joins two complete ideas (independent clauses).

For example:-

- The man walked down the street, and then he turned the corner.
- You can go movie with me, or you can go shopping alone.

Uses of Comma

After an Introductory Clause or Phrase

Use a comma after an introductory clause or phrase. A comma tells readers that the introductory clause or phrase has come to a close and that the main part of the sentence is about to begin.

For Example:-

- When Jones was ready to iron, his cat tripped on the cord.
- Near a small stream at the bottom of the canyon, park rangers discovered a gold mine.

Use a Comma Between All Items in a series

Use a comma to separate each item in a series; a series is a group of three or more items having the same function and form in a sentence.

- We bought apples, peaches, and bananas today. (*series of words*)
- Mary promised that she would be a good girl, that she would not bite her brother, and that she would not climb onto the television. (*series of clauses*)
- The instructor looked through his briefcase, through his desk, and around the office for the lost grade book. (*series of phrases*).

Uses of Comma

Setting Off Non-Restrictive Clauses.

Use commas to enclose clauses not essential to the meaning of a sentence. These nonessential clauses are called nonrestrictive. Clauses which are essential are called restrictive. Both restrictive and nonrestrictive clauses may begin with a relative pronoun (such as who, whom, whose, that, which). A relative pronoun refers to the noun or pronoun that precedes it.

- Steven Strom, whose show you like, will host a party next week. (*non-restrictive*)
- The gentleman who is standing by the fireplace is a well-known composer. (*restrictive*)

Setting Off Appositives

An appositive is a noun or noun phrase that renames a nearby noun. Appositives offer nonessential information. Nonrestrictive appositives are set off with commas; restrictive appositives are not.

- Alexander Pope, the Restoration poet, is famous for his monologues. (*appositive*)
- The poet Pope is famous for his monologues. (*no appositive*)

Comma Exercise

Place commas where they belong in the following sentences.

1. Are you attending my graduation or are you visiting your aunt in Chicago?
2. Marty ate four pancakes two bacon strips and a bowl of grits.
3. The movie although Susan enjoyed it immensely left her in tears.
4. Simon Blake a well-known lawyer may run for governor.
5. If you ever need a ride Judy just let me know.

Answers

1. Are you attending my graduation, or are you visiting your aunt in Chicago?
2. Marty ate four pancakes, two bacon strips, and a bowl of grits.
3. The movie, although Susan enjoyed it, immensely left her in tears
4. Simon Blake, a well-known lawyer, may run for governor.
5. If you ever need a ride, Judy, just let me know.