

LO: To revise the use of
commas when structuring a
sentence.

What are the purpose of
commas in a sentence?

Commas

Commas are used to separate parts of sentences, or to mark a short pause in a long sentence



Commas are used to separate items in a list

The last but one item in a list is usually joined with the word 'and' instead of a comma.

For example:

We had chips, sausages, bacon and peas for lunch.

A bride should have something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue.


Activity: Write out as many of the following as you can in 10 minutes, putting in all the commas for lists. All other commas have been included.

1. I like to play with Jill Jan Joe and Brad.
2. I like red green blue and orange.
3. Kate Kim and Abbey joined the team.
4. Cumulus stratus and nimbus are all types of clouds
5. Don't forget to empty the rubbish vacuum the carpet and clean the windows!
6. Students should concentrate listen and try hard to succeed
7. Would you rather have pizza chips or hot dogs?

Write out as many of the following as you can in 10 minutes, putting in all the commas for lists. All other commas have been included.

1. I like to play with Jill, Jan, Joe and Brad.
2. I like red, green, blue and orange.
3. Kate, Kim and Abbey joined the team.
4. Cumulus, stratus and nimbus are all types of clouds
5. Don't forget to empty the rubbish, vacuum the carpet and clean the windows!
6. Students should concentrate, listen and try hard to succeed
7. Would you rather have pizza, chips or hot dogs?

Choose 1 from below and write a full sentence about the following, including a list with commas:

- The things in your pockets 
- The furniture in your bedroom
- The people in your family
- Things you like to do after school
- Your favourite TV programmes
- Your favourite foods



Commas are used to separate terms of address from the main part of the sentence

Commas are used to a separate name, title or description inside a sentence,

for example:

My dears, I'm delighted to see you.

Answer the phone, Sally!

I regret to say, ladies and gentlemen, that our play tonight is cancelled

Where do commas fit into these sentences?

Mrs Smith anxious mother of young Jimmy Smith to the
Headmaster:

'Headmaster I want my son to stop learning French.'

'That Madam will present no difficulty whatsoever.'

You can do this
as a class for
practise!

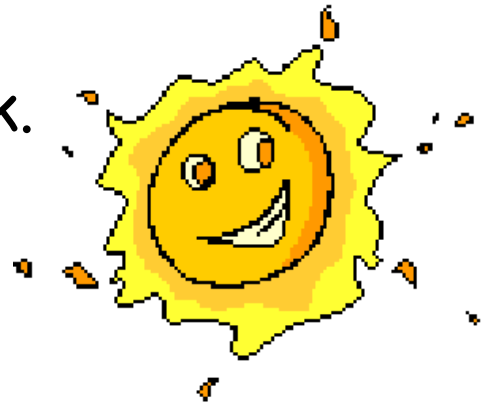
Your turn!



1. You look very pale Sally
2. Have you met my mother Mr Smith?
3. What do you think Emma?
4. No Sir I'm not chewing gum.
5. Dad Dr Brainstorm the head teacher at the local primary school has gone on holiday.

Here's a mix of sentences with lists and terms of address

1. Robert when will you arrive?
2. Time for another talk Jim!
3. I find you completely arrogant over-confident and a general waste of space!
4. Come here James and pick up your mess.
5. You don't know what you're talking about idiot!
6. She grabbed a handful of Mars bars chewy sweets and bubblegum and went to the counter.
7. The room was dirty smelly and very dark.
8. Sweetie can you get that for me?



Check your answers!

- Robert, when will you arrive?
- Time for another talk, Jim!
- I find you completely arrogant, over-confident and a general waste of space!
- Come here, James, and pick up your mess.
- You don't know what you're talking about, idiot!
- She grabbed a handful of Mars bars, chewy sweets and bubblegum and went to the counter.
- The room was dirty, smelly and very dark.
- Sweetie, can you get that for me?