

8 Comma Rules

Answers:

Use a comma to separate items in a list of three or more.

1. Carlos wants to visit Paris, Italy, Germany, and China.
2. My favorite colors are blue, red, and pink.
3. I like to go hiking, fishing, swimming, and camping during summer.
4. I have to clean my room, walk the dog, and take out the trash.
5. The tree is very tall, old, and green
6. I need to visit my mother, wash my car, and buy six stamps.

Use a comma to separate independent clauses (*complete thoughts*) when they are joined by the following conjunctions:

and	or	for	nor	so	but	yet
------------	-----------	------------	------------	-----------	------------	------------

1. We can go to the zoo, or we can go to the movie theater.
2. They like chocolate, but they like vanilla better.
3. We will go to the restaurant now, for we are very hungry.
4. I do not like biology, nor do I like chemistry.
5. James wants to leave now, yet we must wait for his little brother.
6. Terry is working on a project, and he should be finished with it next week.

Use comma to separate a dependent clause (*incomplete thought*) from an independent clause (*complete thought*).

1. In five minutes, the building will be closed.
2. When I get home, I am going to brush my teeth.
3. Until I reach my goal, I will not stop working.
4. If I get a new job, I will be very happy.
5. To become an astronaut, it takes much hard work and determination.
6. Because she is only twelve, she is not old enough to drive.

Use a comma to separate any word or phrase from the rest of the sentence that is not essential to the sentence's meaning. This phrase usually provides extra information about the subject.

1. Daniel Garrison, a farmer, wakes up very early.
2. I, however, am very thirsty.
3. The car, a 1967 ford mustang, is very fast.
4. When school ends today, at 3:15 p.m., we will play soccer.
5. Gold watches, for example, are going on sale today.
6. My favorite color, navy blue, is very popular.

Use a comma to separate a quotation from the rest of a sentence.

1. "I am tired," he muttered.
2. He said, "We need to lower taxes!"
3. "If I don't wake up in time," he whispered, "I will be in trouble."
4. "Today will be rainy," the weatherman said with a frown.
5. The boy watched his mother and wondered, "Could I ever be that strong?"
6. "Okay," spoke the teacher excitedly, "Time's up!"

Use a comma to separate an introductory element from the rest of a sentence.

1. Yes, I would like more water please.
2. Sorry, we do not have enough room.
3. Well, I hope the problem will be fixed soon.
4. However, I am very good at math.
5. Wait, is there another way?
6. Unfortunately, we do not have enough time.

Use a comma to separate the name of a city from a country or state.

1. We are moving to Spokane, Washington.
2. I visited Florence, Italy last summer.
3. The hurricanes hit Tulsa, Oklahoma and Destin, Florida.

Use a comma to separate the day of the week, the day of the month, and the year.

1. Tomorrow will be Sunday, December 2.
2. George Washington was born on February 22, 1732.
3. I will be sixteen on Tuesday, the 6th of July, 1582.
4. September 11, 2001 is a date that will be remembered.