

# Application and Reasoning

## Step 6: Commas

### National Curriculum Objectives:

Year 5 English (5G5.6a) [Using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing](#)

### Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Reasoning)

**Developing** Decide whether a comma has been inserted correctly into a sentence and explain why when using commas in sentences for a variety of purposes, including (one per sentence) to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence.

**Expected** Decide whether a comma has been inserted correctly into a sentence and explain why when using commas in sentences to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials, parenthesis, speech or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence. Commas only used for one purpose per question.

**Greater Depth** Decide whether a comma has been inserted correctly into a sentence and explain why when using commas in sentences to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials, parenthesis, speech or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence. Commas used for more than one purpose per question.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Application)

**Developing** Rewrite a paragraph, adding in all missing punctuation and stating its purpose when using commas in sentences for a variety of purposes, including (one per sentence) to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence.

**Expected** Rewrite a paragraph, adding in all missing punctuation and stating its purpose when using commas in sentences to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials, parenthesis, speech or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence. Commas only used for one purpose per question.

**Greater Depth** Rewrite a paragraph, adding in all missing punctuation and stating its purpose when using commas in sentences to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials, parenthesis, speech or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence. Commas used for more than one purpose per question.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Reasoning)

**Developing** Explain how adding a comma clarifies the meaning of a sentence when using commas in sentences for a variety of purposes, including (one per sentence) to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence.

**Expected** Explain how a comma changes the meaning of a sentence when using commas in sentences to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials, parenthesis, speech or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence. Commas only used for one purpose per question.

**Greater Depth** Explain how a comma changes the meaning of a sentence using commas in sentences to separate items in a list, for fronted adverbials, parenthesis, speech or clarifying ambiguity in a sentence. Commas used for more than one purpose per question.

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## Commas

## Commas

1a. Nasreen has been asked to tick a box or boxes to show where the comma(s) belongs in the sentence.

The after school clubs offered by our



school include football tennis and choir.



Is she correct?

Give reasons for your answer.



R

1b. Franz has been asked to tick a box or boxes to show where the comma(s) belongs in the sentence.

Later that day Maria and her mum went



to the grocery store.



Is he correct?

Give reasons for your answer.



R

2a. Rewrite the paragraph below, adding the missing commas in the correct places.

I enjoy maths English and science the most. I got full marks on a very tricky maths quiz! The only other people to get full marks were Gino Mehmet and Bree.

What is the purpose of the commas?



A

2b. Rewrite the paragraph below, adding the missing commas in the correct places.

On Saturday Ron is having a party with his friends. Before they make pizzas they will play party games. After the party they will camp out in the garden.

What is the purpose of the commas?



A

3a. Explain how the commas change the meaning of the sentence below.

Please go to the shop and buy an apple pie and juice.

Please go to the shop and buy an apple, pie, and juice.



R

3b. Explain how the comma changes the meaning of the sentence below.

Let's play teachers!

Let's play, teachers!



R

## Commas

## Commas

4a. Raheem has been asked to tick a box or boxes to show where the comma(s) belongs in the sentence.

Tova said "I must remember to pick up

☐☐

the rest of the groceries later."

☒

Is he correct?

Give reasons for your answer.



R

4b. Georgia has been asked to tick a box or boxes to show where the comma(s) belongs in the sentence.

The officer a tall man with glasses and

☒☐

light hair picked up the frightened cat.

☐

Is she correct?

Give reasons for your answer.



R

5a. Rewrite the paragraph below, adding the missing commas in the correct places.

"One day" said Mrs Nichols "You lot will understand how hard it is to keep this garden growing!" She added "Then you'll be more careful with the footballs you keep losing over the fence!"

What is the purpose of the commas?



A

5b. Rewrite the paragraph below, adding the missing commas in the correct places.

Reading the cinema schedule Emmy said that the movie would be showing at 4:15pm. If they hurried they would be able to make it. Hoping to get there in time they raced to the car.

What is the purpose of the commas?



A

6a. Explain how the comma changes the meaning of the sentence below.

"After you eat Ronald, we can go to the movie."

"After you eat, Ronald, we can go to the movie."



R

6b. Explain how the comma changes the meaning of the sentence below.

Some of the time, travellers worry about missing their flight.

Some of the time travellers worry about missing their flight.



R

## Commas

## Commas

7a. Jordan believes there are three commas missing from this sentence.

Sternly the teacher said "Everyone especially you three are staying in after class."

Is he correct?  
Give reasons for your answer.  
Add in the missing commas.



R

7b. Katy believes there are five commas missing from this sentence.

Eventually the dog a Dalmatian named Eddie who had been missing for a week was returned to his owners in Leeds.

Is she correct?  
Give reasons for your answer.  
Add in the missing commas.



R

8a. Rewrite the paragraph below, adding the missing commas in the correct places.

Somehow the shop had run out of oranges apples and bananas. "We are due an order on Friday but that's four days away!" sighed the owner a man called Damien as he looked at the empty shelves.

What is the purpose of the commas?



A

8b. Rewrite the paragraph below, adding the missing commas in the correct places.

Without hesitating the teacher grabbed the flasks which contained a simple saline solution and threw them in the sink away from the children. Ryan muttered "We'll never finish this experiment Betty."

What is the purpose of the commas?



A

9a. Explain how the comma changes the meaning of the sentence below.

"I find happiness in cooking, my family and reading a good book!" the chef said with a smile.

"I find happiness in cooking my family and reading a good book!" the chef said with a smile.



R

9b. Explain how the comma changes the meaning of the sentence below.

"That's all, I've finished!" Jessica said, throwing her hands in the air.

"That's all I've finished!" Jessica said, throwing her hands in the air.



R

## Application and Reasoning

### Commas

#### Developing

- 1a. She is incorrect. The comma should be placed after 'football' to separate items in a list.
- 2a. I enjoy maths, English and science the most. I got full marks on a very tricky maths quiz! The only other people to get full marks were Gino, Mehmet and Bree. Commas are used to separate items in a list.
- 3a. The first sentence is asking for two items from the shop: an apple pie and some juice. The second sentence is asking for three items: an apple, a pie, and some juice.

#### Expected

- 4a. He is incorrect. The comma should be placed after 'said' to punctuate speech.
- 5a. "One day," said Mrs Nichols, "You lot will understand how hard it is to keep this garden growing!" She added, "Then you'll be more careful with the footballs you keep losing over the fence!" Commas are used to punctuate speech.
- 6a. The first sentence suggests someone must eat Ronald before going to a movie. The second sentence is notifying Ronald that after he finishes eating, he may go to a movie.

#### Greater Depth

- 7a. Jordan is incorrect. There are four missing commas: one to punctuate a fronted adverbial, one to punctuate speech and two to punctuate parenthesis. Sternly, the teacher said, "Everyone, especially you three, are staying in after class."
- 8a. Somehow, the shop had run out of oranges, apples and bananas. "We are due an order on Friday, but that's four days away!" sighed the owner, a man called Damien, as he looked at the empty shelves. Commas are used to punctuate parenthesis, for commas in a list, for a fronted adverbial and to separate a clause.
- 9a. The first sentence suggests a chef appreciates cooking, spending time with their family and reading a good book. The second sentence suggests a chef enjoys cooking their family as well as reading.

## Application and Reasoning

### Commas

#### Developing

- 1b. She is incorrect. The comma should be placed after 'day' to punctuate a fronted adverbial.
- 2b. On Saturday, Ron is having a pizza party with his friends. Before they make pizzas, they will play party games. After the party, they will camp out in the garden. Commas are used to punctuate fronted adverbials.
- 3b. The first sentence is suggesting that a group play by pretending to be teachers. The second sentence is urging a group of teachers to play.

#### Expected

- 4b. She is partially correct. There should be two commas. The second commas should be placed after 'hair' to punctuate a parenthesis.
- 5b. Reading the cinema schedule, Emmy said that the movie would be showing at 4:15pm. If they hurried, they would be able to make it. Hoping to get there in time, they raced to the car. Commas are used to punctuate fronted adverbials.
- 6b. The first sentence explains that travellers sometimes worry about missing their flights. The second sentence explains that some time-travellers worry about missing their flights.

#### Greater Depth

- 7b. She is incorrect. There are three missing commas: one to punctuate a fronted adverbial and two to punctuate parenthesis. Eventually, the dog, a Dalmatian named Eddie who had been missing for a week, was returned to his owners in Leeds.
- 8b. Without hesitating, the teacher grabbed the flasks, which contained a simple saline solution, and threw them into the sink, away from the children. Ryan muttered, "We'll never finish this experiment Betty." Commas are used to punctuate a fronted adverbial, to punctuate parenthesis and for speech.
- 9b. The first sentence suggests Jessica has completed a task and is throwing her hands up triumphantly. The second sentence suggests Jessica has not completed very much of a task and is throwing her hands up in frustration.