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10 FREE ENGLISH TEACHER RESOURCES

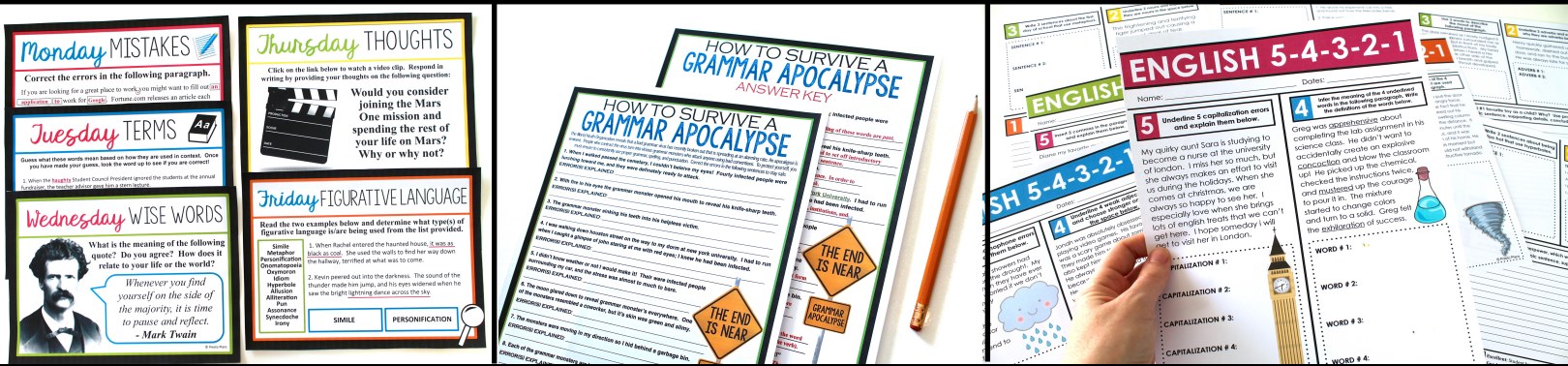


delivered right to your inbox

first name

email

YES, PLEASE!



TRY A COMMA ESCAPE ROOM!



BASIC COMMA RULES

Below are the basic rules for comma usage. Each of the rules has an example in the cellphone on the left.

1. The teacher passed out the quiz, sat down on her chair, and stared at the students.

1. To separate items in a series.

2. You can go to a movie with me, or you can go shopping alone.

2. Before a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so) that connects two independent clauses

3. If the football team wants to win the trophy, they will have to practice everyday.

3. After an introductory clause or phrase (often beginning with after, although, as, while, when, until, before, because, if, since)

4. My grandfather, who is ninety years old, has his own Twitter account.

4. To set off clauses that are not essential to the meaning of the sentence.

5. My uncle's car, a red Lamborghini, always gets attention on the road.

5. To set off appositives (a noun or noun-phrase that renames a noun beside it).

6. The man lived a long, happy life.

6. To separate coordinating adjectives.

7. It was a pleasure to meet you, John.

7. To indicate a direct address.

8. Shakespeare writes, "All the world's a stage" in As You Like It.

8. To set off quoted elements.



BASIC COMMA RULES: PRACTICE

1

Add commas to the text message below based on the comma rules you learned :

I got in trouble in Math class today. While I was working on my assignment Sarah asked me to help her with a question. I knew we weren't supposed to be talking but I decided to help her. Mr. Jones who is always such a nice teacher stared directly at me angrily. He said "Rachel you need to be quiet immediately!" Everyone stopped what they were doing looked up and stared at me. Since I was absolutely mortified I really didn't know what to do or say.

I'm sorry that happened to you Rachel. You are such a helpful nice person so it was hard for you to say no when Sarah asked for help. Although you might not want to maybe you should go talk to Mr. Jones to smooth things over. He is an understanding teacher and I'm sure he will see you were just trying to help. If you need someone to talk to I am always here for you!

2

Add commas to the text message below based on the comma rules you learned :

After the school day is done do you want to go to the football game? I know you normally have to work but I was hoping you would be free today! I am catching a ride with John Frank and Samantha. There is room for one more so we can pick you up if you like. I heard that your friend Chris is going to be in the starting lineup tonight. He looked really nervous when I saw him this morning. I said "Chris take a long deep breath. Everything will be fine."

I wish I could make it but I do have to work tonight. Although I really like my job it bothers me that I haven't been to one football game this year! I am going to ask Joan who is in charge of the work schedule if I can have an evening off for the next game. Chris is a dedicated hard-working player so I know he will do well tonight. Even though he can sometimes get really nervous he always gains his confidence when he hits the field.

3

Add commas to the text message below based on the comma rules you learned :

Yesterday I was so busy after school! I had track and field dinner at my aunt's house and homework until 11:00pm. I am really looking forward to a stress-free relaxing weekend. My brother who is away at university is coming home. Every time he is here he says "I am going to teach you how to relax Emma." While I know I could use the time to get caught up on school work I am going to take his advice and relax! What are your plans for the weekend?

Your brother is a wise sensible man! You work so hard but you often don't take time for yourself. I am going away for the weekend with my family to the beach. We are going to swim in the ocean sleep on the sandy warm beach and eat lots of seafood. My father an experienced fisherman plans to catch our dinner everyday. If you weren't spending time with your brother I would ask you to come along! I hope you have a great weekend Emma!

BASIC COMMA RULES: PRACTICE

4

Add commas to the text message below based on the comma rules you learned :

The school musical is next week and I am really starting to get nervous! Although I know all my lines songs and stage directions I am still anxious about opening night. My director Mr. Lloyd said "Sadie if you are nervous it means you care about your performance." I just keep repeating that over and over in my head. I know you are really busy but it would mean a lot to me if you could make it!

I wouldn't miss it for the world! When you walk onto the stage your nerves will go away as they always do. You are a strong talented actress so I know you will do well. Just make sure to practice practice and practice :) When I was speaking with mom today she said "I am so proud of Sadie!" Even though you are nervous now you will feel overjoyed when the play is a success!

5

Add commas to the text message below based on the comma rules you learned :

Don't forget that we have band practice tonight Tuesday and Thursday. When we meet we should also discuss the line-up for our next performance. Johnny has been working on that chorus for two weeks now so it should be ready by tonight. I also heard that The Lodge the local community center is looking for a band for Halloween. The poster said "We need a band that knows how to ROCK" so I think we are a shoo-in!

Thanks for the reminder about practice Joe. Johnny is a skilled expert guitarist so I'm sure his chorus will rock. Before we put our name in to play at the community center we should probably get a killer line-up together for the event. As far as I know The Lodge is known for putting on classic rock so we should consider that when choosing songs. If we tighten up our base drumming and melodies we have a good shot!

6

Add commas to the text message below based on the comma rules you learned :

Since the school dance is this Thursday do you want to come to my house to get ready after school? We can listen to music do each other's hair and help each other choose an outfit to wear. My mother the self-proclaimed dance expert says she wants to show us some dance moves! Haha. I heard the theme of the dance is Hollywood so I am going to wear lots of sparkly shiny glitter.

Thanks for inviting me over Kayleigh! I'll ask my mom but I'm sure she will say yes. While I don't have a lot of glittery clothing I do have a gold dress that will go perfectly with the theme. I'll bring over my hair straightener hair glitter and sparkly hair clips. My mother says "You girls are going to look like pageant queens with all that on!" :)

BASIC COMMA RULES: ANSWERS

1

ANSWER KEY

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ANSWER KEY

After the school day is done, do you want to go to the football game? I know you normally have to work, but I was hoping you would be free today! I am catching a ride with John, Frank, and Samantha. There is room for one more, so we can pick you up if you like. I heard that your friend, Chris, is going to be in the starting lineup tonight. He looked really nervous when I saw him this morning. I said, "Chris, take a long, deep breath. Everything will be fine."

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BASIC COMMA RULES: ANSWERS

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ANSWER KEY

The school musical is next week, and I am really starting to get nervous! Although I know all my lines, songs, and stage directions, I am still anxious about opening night. My director, Mr. Lloyd, said, "Sadie, if you are nervous, it means you care about your performance." I just keep repeating that over and over in my head. I know you are really busy, but it would mean a lot to me if you could make it!

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