

Name: _____

Using Commas

When should I use commas?

- 1. Use a comma before a conjunction (and, but, or, yet, so) to join two independent clauses.**
example: I went to the game, but my team lost.
- 2. Use a comma after an introductory element.**
example: After a short snooze, Bob got right back to work.
- 3. Use commas to separate items in a series of three or more things.**
example: I bought sugar, pasta, and juice.
- 4. Use commas to separate adjectives.**
example: A thin, handsome man approached me after work.

Read each sentence. Put commas in the correct places in each sentence.

1. Even though the paint was still wet I couldn't resist touching it.
2. After the fire burned out I went inside the house.
3. In English class we read *Old Man and the Sea* *Dracula* and *Beowulf*.
4. I watched television took the dog for a walk and drove to the store to get milk.
5. Vanessa wanted a chocolate milkshake but she decided on a strawberry one instead.
6. There was a lot of traffic on our way to school this morning so our bus was a little late.
7. While the turkey was cooking I prepared mashed potatoes.
8. Sasha likes dogs and Jayden likes cats.
9. In the basement mice hide between the boxes.
10. After hiking in the woods for three hours I sat down to have a drink of water.
11. The big gray dog wouldn't stop barking last night.
12. Jane I would like you to meet my mother and father.
13. I need to go to the hardware store to get nails paint and light bulbs.
14. If you liked *Harry Potter* you'll love *Lord of the Rings*.
15. I've had enough of your silly wild and inappropriate behavior.

ANSWER KEY

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