

7 Rules for Commas

1. Comma after "yes" or "no" at the beginning of a sentence. Example: Yes, I would like to have a carrot. Example: No, I didn't see you at the soccer game.
2. Comma before or after direct address (speaking **to** someone using their name). Example: Mary, please hand me a pencil. Example: Please watch where you are going, Ben.
3. Comma after the greeting and closing of a letter.
Example: Dear Tom,
How are you? I am fine.
Sincerely,
Lynn
4. Comma to separate the day or month from the year. Example: January 10th, 2006.
Example: Friday, May 16th.
5. Comma to separate things in a series. Example: I need to buy bread, milk, and butter at the store. Example: My favorite colors are blue, orange, and green.
6. Use commas before and after a quotation in a sentence. Example: "What I really want," said Amir, "is some lemonade."
7. Use a comma after common introductory words in a sentence, like *however*, *clearly*, and *well*. Example: However, we should still investigate the missing painting.

Comma Exercises

Correct each sentence by writing it with commas in the correct places.

1. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born on January 27th 1756.
2. Sam please hand me the ice cream cone.
3. Yes I could help you wash your car
4. Dear Mom
I am having fun at camp.
Love
Tim
5. Clearly the hamsters need more food and water.
6. "I would love to have spaghetti for dinner tonight" said Marie.
7. Squirrels chipmunks and deer are all animals that live in the forest.