



## Chapter 3 Exercises

### Lesson 3.1: Commas

1. Are commas used correctly?

In closing, the Weaver Foundation has done wonderful things for small business owners, our children, and our teachers.

Yes

No

2. Is the comma used correctly?

Jania and Michael went to the movies, and saw a new horror film.

Yes

No

3. Identify the function of the comma.

Tim Tebow began his career playing football, but he started playing minor league baseball a few years later.

After a transition word

After an introductory prepositional phrase

After a dependent clause

To join two independent clauses

To separate extra details

4. Identify the sentence that uses commas correctly.

The new apartments, which are located downtown are much more ornate than the plain sterile office buildings nearby.

The new apartments, which are located downtown, are much more ornate than the plain sterile office buildings nearby.

The new apartments which are located downtown, are much more ornate, than the plain, sterile office buildings nearby.

The new apartments, which are located downtown, are much more ornate than the plain, sterile office buildings nearby.

5. Identify the answer that revises the comma errors in this sentence.

Initially Tati was hesitant to begin painting but now she enjoys working with vibrant rich colors.

Initially Tati was hesitant to begin painting but now she enjoys working with vibrant, rich colors.

Initially, Tati was hesitant to begin painting, but now she enjoys working with vibrant rich colors.

Initially, Tati was hesitant to begin painting, but now she enjoys working with vibrant, rich colors.

Initially Tati was hesitant to begin painting, but now she enjoys working with vibrant rich, colors.

6. Add commas where needed.

Next combine the sifted fluffy dry mixture with the egg mixture and Jay will stir it to the correct consistency for you.

Read the following passage. Then, answer the questions.

(1) During the road trip, Erin realized that she had never locked up her house. (2) She was angry, nervous, and frustrated with herself. (3) At a loss, she called the police to explain the situation. (4) The officer on duty, Marlene Jackson, was helpful and quick to visit her property. (5) Overall she was extremely thankful that the situation was handled and her friends were happy that they didn't have to turn around!

7. How is the comma used in Sentence 1?
- To separate adjectives of equal weight
  - After an introductory prepositional phrase
  - After a dependent clause
  - To join two independent clauses
  - To separate extra or unnecessary details
8. How are the commas used in Sentence 2?
- To separate adjectives of equal weight
  - After an introductory prepositional phrase
  - After a dependent clause
  - To join two independent clauses
  - To separate extra or unnecessary details
9. How are the commas used in Sentence 4?
- To separate adjectives of equal weight
  - After an introductory prepositional phrase
  - After a dependent clause
  - To join two independent clauses
  - To separate extra or unnecessary details
10. Identify the answer that revises the comma errors in Sentence 5.
- Overall, she was extremely, thankful that the situation was handled and her friends were happy that they didn't have to turn around!
  - Overall she was extremely thankful that the situation was handled, and her friends were happy, that they didn't have to turn around!
  - Overall, she was extremely thankful that the situation was handled, and her friends were happy that they didn't have to turn around!
  - Overall, she was extremely thankful, that the situation was handled and her friends were happy, that they didn't have to turn around!

### Lesson 3.2: Semicolons and Colons

11. Which two sentences use semicolons correctly?
- My family loves eating at this restaurant; it reminds us of when we lived in Hong Kong.
  - Unemployment rates are falling; they reached a historical low; just last week.
  - After registering for classes; Jerome realized that he only needed ten more credits to graduate.

- According to Eleanor Roosevelt, an American first lady and diplomat, “Happiness is not a goal; it is a byproduct.”

12. Which sentence uses semicolons *incorrectly*?

- Kallie scored three goals in the first half; her team still lost the game.
- Human resources will contact you about the position; in three to five business days.
- Bring your resume, application, and a form of identification; upon your arrival, the receptionist will ask you to sign a consent form.
- Mr. Grey has taught high school biology for three decades; he has been awarded Teacher of the Year more than ten times.

13. Add the missing semicolon.

As soon as the robot began malfunctioning, the scientist checked the code she found the issue and resolved it quickly.

14. Which answer choice correctly uses a semicolon to form a compound sentence?

- Felicity mapped out her semester course schedule before the registration window opened; this preparation allowed her to quickly choose her desired classes before they filled up.
- The aircraft was not inspected to the company’s standards; train travel costs have risen significantly over the last five years.
- Neal is an amateur blacksmith with aspirations; making it his career one day.
- Before the demolition, the team needed to check the fuse connections; ensure proper safety attire for everyone on-site; notify the base guard of the pending explosion; and film each component for later review.

15. Add the missing semicolons.

For the chili, you will need two cans of beans in chili sauce one package of lean ground beef one can of crushed, fire-roasted tomatoes plenty of spices, like chili powder and cumin and toppings of your choice (such as cheese, tortilla strips, or cilantro).

16. Is the colon used correctly?

The beach clean up volunteers found: a half-buried gold wedding band, several deflated beach balls, lots of plastic water bottles, and four Styrofoam coolers.

- Yes  No

17. Is the colon used correctly?

Carl Jung said: “Everything that irritates us about others can lead us to an understanding of ourselves.”

- Yes  No

18. Add the missing colon.

My sister has three things at the top of her bucket list crashing a stranger’s party at a fancy hotel, doing yoga in a public park, and appearing as a guest on a late-night talk show.

19. Use colons to write this time of day: four fifteen p.m.

20. Write a sentence that correctly uses a colon to introduce this quote:

Quote: “The best revenge is to be unlike him who performed the injury.”

Source: Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*

### Lesson 3.3: Apostrophes

21. Which situation requires an apostrophe?

- Possessive pronouns                       Possessive nouns  
 Plural nouns                                       Singular pronouns

22. Identify the sentence that uses the apostrophe(s) correctly.

- In tomorrows' newspaper, the front-page article will discuss the recent local crime spree's.  
 Frederick seems to retain some affection for Rosalind, allowing her to stay despite her father's banishment.  
 Dr. Marta Jones's dissertation was thirty pages' long; it was about post-colonialism in human geography.  
 Patricia Smith's poetry focuses on Hurricane Katrina and it's devastating effects on New Orleans.

23. Identify the sentence that uses the apostrophe(s) *incorrectly*.

- Ellis's llama keeps sneaking into the neighbor's garden and nibbling on the rutabagas.  
 The soldiers's rations were slim, but the squadron's cook tried hard to make the meals appealing.  
 Until the mud-covered puppy jumped in the pool and washed off its spots, Lorenzo didn't realize it was his dog!

24. Identify the word that uses an apostrophe correctly.

Mallorys' familys car's are much newer than the other parents' cars.

25. Identify the word that uses an apostrophe *incorrectly*.

John's first job in the late 90's was washing windows at his neighbor's corporate office building.

26. Which answer uses an apostrophe to make a noun possessive?

- it's                       '60s                       let's                       dad's

27. Shorten these phrases, using apostrophes to indicate possession.

the license belonging to the company

the bikes belonging to the kids

the grades belonging to the students

Read the following passage. Then, answer the questions.

(1) "It's still at the dry cleaners," I explained when Gavin asked me where his shirt had gone. (2) "I'm hoping that it'll be ready to pick up tomorrow."

(3) Sharply, Gavin said, "I hope you're right because the consequences won't be your's but mine. (4) Without that shirt, I wont have anything to wear to the companys' dinner; I don't think either of us wants' that to happen."

28. In Sentence 2, what purpose do the apostrophes serve?

- To show that the pronouns are possessive  
 To show that the pronouns are plural  
 To combine words in a contraction

29. Which word in Sentence 3 uses apostrophes *incorrectly*?

- you're                       your's                       won't

30. Which word in Sentence 4 uses apostrophes correctly?

- wont                       companys'                       don't                       wants'

### Lesson 3.4: Quotation Marks, Parentheses, and Brackets

31. Identify the two sentences that use quotation marks correctly.

- The statement made by the Jordan government asserted that “all attempts to rescue the hostages have failed.
- According to historian Shui Ping, “The Romans failed to learn from the mistakes of the Greeks.”
- My favorite chapter in the entire book is “Who Stole the Tarts?”
- “The custodian said, Excuse me, I just mopped there.”

32. Identify the sentence that uses quotation marks *incorrectly*.

- Dr. Abigail Shakhtar, marine biologist, urges beachgoers to clean up after themselves “for the sake of the native wildlife, whose homes you are visiting and often destroying in the process.”
- Hannah’s tenth grade English teacher asked the class to read the short story “Thank You, M’am” by Langston Hughes.
- Lin’s parrot squawked, “It’s a tad underbaked!”
- “If you don’t have a signed parental consent form, we cannot watch *The Office* episode ‘Money’ in class to discuss whoever vs. whomever,” said Ms. Tealy.

33. Add quotation marks where needed.

The jogger waved his arms, shouting, That red car almost ran me over!

34. Identify the two sentences that use parentheses correctly.

Every Sunday during football season, Orlando and Casey (friends from work) throw a viewing party, and everyone brings a side dish or dessert. (I always bring my homemade chocolate chip cookies.) Everyone always has (a great time no matter which teams) are playing or who wins.

35. Identify the sentence that uses parentheses correctly.

- Dr. Kimberly Tripp (a graduate of the University of Florida College of Medicine is currently in her residency at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital.)
- Dr. Kimberly Tripp (a graduate of the University of Florida College of Medicine) is currently in her residency at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital.
- (Dr. Kimberly Tripp) a graduate of the University of Florida College of Medicine is currently in her residency (at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital.)

36. Add parentheses where needed.

One professional sports league that depends heavily on sponsorships is the World Surf League WSL because spectators aren’t required to pay to watch people surf at public beaches.

37. Which punctuation marks are used for adding missing text inside a quote?

- Quotation marks                       Parentheses                       Brackets

38. After reading the original quotation, identify the sentence that uses brackets correctly to modify the quote.

Original

“Urban legends usually happen to a friend of a friend of the person who is telling the story. However, there is usually no evidence to prove it. The decision to believe them or not is entirely up to the audience.”

Modified

“Urban legends usually happen to a [friend of a friend] of the person who is telling the story. However, there is usually no evidence to prove it. The decision to believe [the storyteller] or not is entirely up to the audience.”

39. Which two sentences in this passage use brackets correctly?

The article claims that “comfort foods provide psychological comfort by evoking positive memories (usually from childhood [defined as age 0 to 12]) and producing a comforting feeling of happiness or joy” (Wexler 46). However, the specific type [of food varies] from person to person. This is because “making connections between [any particular food] and a happy memory is a personalized, individual process,” Wexler explained (47).

40. Add brackets where necessary.

Leslie’s sister applied to most colleges in the Appalachia area (except the University of Virginia UVA ).

### Lesson 3.5: Ellipses, Hyphens, and Dashes

41. Is the ellipsis used correctly?

Shakily, she lowered herself into the wooden chair... and waited for her mother’s arrival.

- Yes  No

42. After reading the original quotation, identify the option that uses ellipses correctly to modify the quote.

Original

“Watching soccer is my main hobby, really. I’m no tactician or coach, but I enjoy watching the free flow of it, the different styles, and the histories behind clubs. Like Barcelona vs. Madrid—it’s not just a soccer game; it’s a geopolitical struggle. There are great storylines and no commercials.” - Andrew Luck

- “Watching soccer is my main hobby . . . I enjoy watching the free flow of it, the different styles, and the histories behind clubs.”
- “Watching . . . of it, the different styles . . . ; it’s a geopolitical struggle . . . no commercials.”
- “Watching soccer is my main hobby, really. I’m no tactician or coach . . . it’s . . . just a soccer game.”

43. Which sentence formats the ellipsis correctly?

- According to retail employee Mark Parker, the malls have been “empty as a ghost town...since the pandemic.”
- According to retail employee Mark Parker, the malls have been “empty as a ghost town . . . since the pandemic.”
- According to retail employee Mark Parker, the malls have been “empty as a ghost town .... since the pandemic.”

44. Which sentence uses hyphens correctly?

- Most cameras include a timer function that allows-the-photographer to include them-selves in the photo.
- We began by summarizing the first twenty-five pages of the book.
- Gianna’s coworkers think she’s delightfully easygoing, but her close friends-and family- might disagree.

45. Which sentence uses hyphens *incorrectly*?

- Full-time students are eligible to receive one free ticket to every home football game.
- Nadia will not travel without her very-costly luggage set.
- The nurse said, “Your anti-inflammatory medication is ready to be picked up from our on-site pharmacy.”

46. Add hyphens where needed.

Jeevan’s ten year old son said from the backseat, “I think I’m experiencing a post nap headache.”

47. Is the dash used correctly?

She accidentally left all her groceries—milk, eggs, fruit, and meat outside in a hot car.

- Yes  No

Read the following passage. Then, answer the questions.

(1) In a two-part interview with *Fade* magazine, fourteen-year-old pop sensation Kodee Ming said his rise to fame happened unexpectedly and unintentionally. (2) He never imagined that anyone — not millions of people around the world — would watch shakily filmed YouTube videos of him playing cover songs in his basement. (3) “I believe everyone has a purpose in life . . . I realized that mine was music because of the joy it brought me. (4) A life without music—singing it, writing it, producing it—would be a colorless, pointless life.”

48. Are hyphens used correctly in Sentence 1?

- Yes  No

49. Are dashes used correctly in Sentence 2?

- Yes  No

50. Is the ellipsis used correctly in Sentence 3?

- Yes  No

51. Are dashes used correctly in Sentence 4?

- Yes  No

**Lesson 3.6: Capitalization and Italics**

52. Is the capitalization correct?

Basil is a fragrant herb common in both italian and thai cooking.

- Yes  No

53. Is the capitalization correct?

As neuroscientist Antonio Damasio explains, "it is emotion that allows you to mark things as good, bad, or different."

- Yes  No

54. Identify the three words that should *not* be capitalized.

The National Basketball Association (NBA) held a Conference about Famous Athletes.

55. Correct the capitalization errors.

debaters will be asked a series of questions about australain and european history.

56. Identify the three words or word groups that should be italicized.

After reading the novels East of Eden and Roots, we were asked to compare them to the movie Minari.

57. Identify the option that should *not* be italicized.

- Book titles  Albums  
 Movie titles  Short story titles  
 Magazines and newspapers  Works of art

58. Identify the term that should be italicized.

For their anniversary dinner, Alex made Madhavi salmon with beurre blanc, a classic French butter sauce containing heavy cream, white wine, shallots, and vinegar.

Read the following passage. Then, answer the questions.

(1) Penny was struggling in her african american history course, but her Professor noticed and asked how he could help. (2) She said, "I'm trying to understand the themes and issues addressed in Ellison's novel *Invisible Man*, but it feels blurry and unclear when I read it." (3) Professor Barkley offered to read parts of the novel with her so they could discuss important topics along the way.

59. Is the capitalization correct in Sentence 1?

- Yes  No

60. Are italics used correctly in Sentence 2?

- Yes  No

**Lesson 3.7: Abbreviations and Numbers**

61. Identify the two true statements about abbreviations.

- Organization names are often abbreviated.  
 Abbreviations make your writing awkward.  
 Abbreviations are shortened forms of words or phrases.  
 Abbreviations that cannot be pronounced as regular words are acronyms.

62. Write the abbreviation for this government organization: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

63. Identify the acronym.

- Dr. (doctor)
- FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- DVD (digital video disc)
- NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
- Lb. (pound)

64. Is the abbreviation *NFL* introduced correctly in this example?

Two of the newest franchises in the NFL are the Jacksonville Jaguars and the Houston Texans. The National Football League welcomed the Jaguars in 1995, and the Texans' debut season was in 2002.

- Yes
- No

65. What is the correct spelling of this number?

28

- twenty eight
- twentyeight
- twenty-eight

66. Which sentence formats the numbers in MLA style?

- According to the organization's website, the highest-paid athlete in 2023 received 269,000,000 dollars.
- The archaeologists found pottery dating back to 607 BCE.
- 25 students received scholarships for academic integrity last year.
- Hannah was born in two thousand ten, and her family has moved across 7 different states since then.

67. Which sentence does *not* format numbers in MLA style?

- Fifty-two traffic accidents have occurred at this intersection since 2004; the city government must enact protective measures to keep the community safe from this known hazard.
- The joint car wash and bake sale earned three thousand four hundred and seventy-one dollars for charity last weekend.
- According to a 2021 research study, 39% of women ages twenty-five and older held a bachelor's degree (or higher), compared to 37% of men in the same age range.
- Professor Kaado asked the class to turn to page 91, then asked for three volunteers to read aloud one paragraph each.

Read the following passage. Then, answer the questions.

(1) In many modern horror films, directors use expensive computer-generated imagery (CGI) shots of violence and mayhem and elaborately choreographed action scenes to show the audience the literal truth of a story. (2) However, less overt tactics—such as innovative editing techniques, insinuated violence, and unexpected plot twists—are often more effective. (3) In the infamous shower scene of his 1960 masterpiece film *Psycho*, Alfred Hitchcock utilizes all three of these tactics to unnerve his audience. (4) The film was nominated for 4 Academy Awards, and after Hitchcock's death in nineteen eighty, Universal Pictures produced 3 sequels, a remake, and a TV series based on his film.

68. Does Sentence 1 use abbreviations correctly?

Yes

No

69. Does Sentence 3 format numbers in MLA style?

Yes

No

70. Does Sentence 4 format numbers in MLA style?

Yes

No