



Using Commas: Exercise #1

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Add commas as needed in the sentences below. On the line to the left of each sentence, write the number of the appropriate comma rule. If the sentence is correct as it is, write C on the line and refer to the appropriate rule in parentheses after the sentence. You may wish to review our handout on Using Commas at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_comma.html before trying this exercise.

- _____ He left the scene of the accident and tried to forget that it had happened.
- _____ Oil which is lighter than water rises to the surface.
- _____ Madame de Stael was an attractive gracious lady.
- _____ Nice is a word with many meanings and some of them are contradictory.
- _____ The contractor testified that the house was completed and that the work had been done properly.
- _____ Some people refuse to go to the zoo because of pity for creatures that must live in small cages.
- _____ Taxicabs that are dirty are illegal in some cities.
- _____ The closet contained worn clothes old shoes and dirty hats.
- _____ The uninvited guest wore a dark blue tweed suit.
- _____ After surviving this ordeal the trapper felt relieved.
- _____ Mark Twain's early novels I believe stand the test of time.
- _____ December 7 1941 will never be forgotten.
- _____ The field was safe enough wasn't it?
- _____ Write the editor of the Atlantic 8 Arlington Street Boston Massachusetts 02116.
- _____ He replied "I have no idea what you mean."
- _____ After a good washing and grooming the pup looked like a new dog.
- _____ Because of their opposition to institutions that force creatures to live in captivity some people refuse to go to the zoo.
- _____ Men who are bald are frequently the ones who are the most authoritative on the subject of baldness.
- _____ Vests which were once popular have been out of vogue for several years.
- _____ As a celestial goddess she regulated the course of the heavenly bodies and controlled the alternating seasons.
- _____ I hope that some day he will learn how to be polite.

Answers for this exercise are available at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaA1.html. You can also go on to the next exercise at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX2.html or return to the handout on Using Commas (#3) at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_comma.html.

The following information must remain intact on every handout printed for distribution.

This page is located at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX1.html

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