

Comma Rules Review Lesson

A low-prep review of seven common comma rules for secondary ELA.



Slides +
Guided Notes



Seven Common
Comma Rules



Practice, Review
& Exit Ticket

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✓ 22 teaching slides
- ✓ guided notes + answer key
- ✓ mixed practice + answer key
- ✓ exit ticket + answer key
- ✓ teacher quick start

COMMA RULES REVIEW

The Seven Comma Rules

Use this overview as a map for the lesson.

- 1 Items in a Series
- 2 Coordinate Adjectives
- 3 Independent Clauses
- 4 Nonessential Information
- 5 Introductory Elements
- 6 Interrupters
- 7 Dates, Places & Correspondence

SLIDES

Comma Rules Review

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

rule 1: Items in a Series

Use commas to separate _____ or more items in a series.
EXAMPLE: The three items on the menu were the steak, the salad, and the bread.
TEST 1: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.
The students packed notebooks pencils and headphones.

rule 2: Coordinate Adjectives

Use a comma between _____ adjectives that equally describe the same noun.
EXAMPLE: The book was both interesting and funny.
TEST 2: Can you _____ between the adjectives?
TEST 3: Can you _____ their order and keep the same meaning?
TEST 4: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

rule 3: Independent Clauses

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction when it joins two _____ sentences.
EXAMPLE: I was tired, so I went to bed.
TEST 5: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.
Mays finished the assignment but she forgot to submit it.

GUIDED NOTES

COMMA RULES REVIEW

MIXED PRACTICE

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

1. The committee ordered pizza salad breadsticks and lemonade for the meeting.
Rule(s): _____
2. We entered the quiet dim hallway and listened for footsteps.
Rule(s): _____
3. Lena wanted to revise her conclusion but she ran out of time.
Rule(s): _____
4. Daniel who lives in Chicago is visiting this weekend.
Rule(s): _____

MIXED PRACTICE

COMMA RULES REVIEW

EXIT TICKET

- Name: _____ Period: _____
1. Add any needed commas.
After the rehearsal ended the cast gathered backstage.
 2. Add any needed commas.
The narrow winding road led us to the overlook.
 3. Which rule explains the comma in this sentence?
I wanted to finish the chapter, but I was too tired to keep reading.
Rule: _____
 4. Explain why no comma is needed.
Nora opened her notebook and copied the assignment.

EXIT TICKET

COMMA RULES REVIEW

TEACHER QUICK START

A low-prep review of seven common comma rules for secondary ELA. Use the slides and guided notes for instruction, then move into mixed practice and a quick exit check.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- Items in a series
- Coordinate adjectives
- Independent clauses • FANBOYS
- Essential vs. nonessential information
- Introductory elements
- Interrupters
- Dates, places, and correspondence

WHAT TO PREPARE

- Project the instructional slide deck.
- Print one guided notes packet per student.
- Print the mixed practice when students are ready to work independently.
- Print exit tickets two per page and cut before class, if desired.
- Keep answer-key pages for teacher reference.

TEACHER GUIDE



LOW-PREP.

FOCUSED PRACTICE.

CONFIDENT WRITING.



Teach grammar with confidence. Reinforce comma rules that matter.

Teach the Rules Clearly



Secondary
ELA



Comma
Rules



Teacher
Guide
Included

*Everything you need to teach, model,
and reinforce seven key comma rules.*

PROJECTED TEACHING SLIDES

COMMA RULE REVIEW

Items in a Series

Use commas to separate three or more items in a series.

RULE 1

Use commas to separate three or more items in a series.

ASK YOURSELF

Are there three or more words, phrases, or clauses in a list?

EXAMPLE

The students packed notebooks, pencils, and headphones.

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COMMA RULE REVIEW

Coordinate Adjectives

Not every pair of adjectives needs a comma.

RULE 2

Use a comma between coordinate adjectives that equally describe the same noun.

ASK YOURSELF

Can you put "and" between the adjectives?
Can you reverse their order?

EXAMPLE

The class read a suspenseful, unsettling story.

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COMMA RULE REVIEW

Independent Clauses

A comma can separate two complete thoughts.

RULE 3

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction when it joins two independent clauses.

Independent clause + , + FANBOYS + independent clause

FANBOYS: for • and • nor • but • or • yet • so

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STUDENT GUIDED NOTES

Comma Rules Review

GUIDED NOTES

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

RULE 1: Items in a Series

Use commas to separate _____ or more items in a series.

ASK YOURSELF: Are there three or more items doing the same job in the sentence?

TEST IT: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

The students packed notebooks pencils and headphones.

RULE 2: Coordinate Adjectives

Use a comma between _____ adjectives that equally describe the same noun.

ASK YOURSELF: Do both adjectives describe the noun equally?

TEST 1: Can you place _____ between the adjectives?

TEST 2: Can you _____ their order and keep the same meaning?

TEST IT: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

The class read a suspenseful unsettling story.

RULE 3: Independent Clauses

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction when it joins two _____.

ASK YOURSELF: Can BOTH sides stand alone as complete sentences?

FANBOYS: F _____ A _____ N _____ D _____ O _____ R _____ Y _____ S _____

TEST IT: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

Maya finished the assignment but she forgot to submit it.

Comma Rules Review

GUIDED NOTES

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

RULE 4: Nonessential Information

Use commas to set off information that is not _____ to the basic meaning of the sentence.

ASK YOURSELF: If I remove this information, does the sentence still clearly identify who or what I mean?

TEST IT: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

Mr. Alvarez who teaches chemistry coaches the robotics team.

RULE 5: Introductory Elements

Use a comma after certain words, phrases, and clauses that _____ a sentence.

ASK YOURSELF: Does an introductory element come before the main clause?

Common types: introductory word • participial phrase • longer prepositional phrase • dependent clause

TEST IT: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

Although the ending surprised him Marcus thought the clues made sense.

RULE 6: Interrupters

Use commas to set off words, phrases, or clauses that _____ the main idea of a sentence.

ASK YOURSELF: Can I lift this interruption out and still have the sentence's main structure?

TEST IT: Add any needed commas directly to the sentence.

Our principal Dr. Harris greeted students at the door.

FILL-IN SUPPORT AS YOU TEACH

COMMA RULES REVIEW

MIXED PRACTICE

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

Directions: Add commas directly to each sentence where needed. Some sentences need one comma, some need none. Then identify the rule number(s) that explain your choice.

1. The committee ordered pizza salad breadsticks and lemonade for the meeting.

Rule(s): _____

2. We entered the quiet dim hallway and listened for footsteps.

Rule(s): _____

3. Lena wanted to revise her conclusion but she ran out of time.

Rule(s): _____

4. Daniel who lives in Chicago is visiting this weekend.

Rule(s): _____

PRACTICE PAGE EXAMPLE



TEACHER NOTE

*Ideal for direct instruction,
review, or reteaching.*

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SEVEN RULES COVERED

1. Items in a Series
2. Coordinate Adjectives
3. Independent Clauses
4. Nonessential Information
5. Introductory Elements
6. Interrupters
7. Dates, Places & Correspondence



Practice, Check, and Reinforce

Build confidence with mixed practice and quick checks for understanding.



Mixed Practice



Answer Keys Included



Assess Understanding Quickly

MIXED PRACTICE PAGES

COMMA RULES REVIEW

MIXED PRACTICE

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

Directions. Add commas directly to each sentence where needed. Some sentences need no comma, and some need more than one. Then identify the rule number(s) that explain your choice.

- The committee ordered pizza salad breadsticks and lemonade for the meeting.
Rule(s): _____
- We entered the quiet dim hallway and listened for footsteps.
Rule(s): _____
- Lena wanted to revise her conclusion but she ran out of time.
Rule(s): _____
- Daniel who lives in Chicago is students packed their bags.
Rule(s): _____
- Marcus please bring your draft to the conference table.
Rule(s): _____
- On Tuesday, September 8, 2026, the club will meet in Erie Pennsylvania.
Rule(s): _____

- mixed comma practice
- students name the rule

ANSWER KEYS INCLUDED

COMMA RULES REVIEW

ANSWER KEY

Answer Key. Correct punctuation is shown below. The rule label identifies the primary rule or combination of rules.

- The committee ordered pizza, salad, breadsticks, and lemonade for the meeting.
RULE 1 – ITEMS IN A SERIES
- We entered the quiet, dim hallway and listened for footsteps.
RULE 2 – COORDINATE ADJECTIVES
- Lena wanted to revise her conclusion, but she ran out of time.
RULE 3 – INDEPENDENT CLAUSES
- Daniel, who lives in Chicago, is visiting this weekend.
RULE 4 – NONESSENTIAL INFORMATION
- Before the final bell rang, the students packed their bags.
RULE 5 – INTRODUCTORY ELEMENTS
- Marcus, please bring your draft to the conference table.
RULE 6 – INTERRUPTERS
- On Tuesday, September 8, 2026, the club will meet in Erie, Pennsylvania.
RULE 7 – DATES, PLACES & CORRESPONDENCE

- answer keys included
- reinforces learning & saves time

EXIT TICKET

COMMA RULES REVIEW

EXIT TICKET

NAME: _____ PERIOD: _____

- Add any needed commas.
After the rehearsal ended the cast gathered backstage.

- Add any needed commas.
The narrow winding road led us to the overlook.

- Which rule explains the comma in this sentence?
I wanted to finish the chapter, but I was too tired to keep reading.
Rule: _____
- Explain why no comma is needed.
Nora opened her notebook and copied the assignment.

- quick exit check
- shows understanding before students leave

COMMA RULES REVIEW

NEED PRACTICE – CONTINUED

- Are agreed the document and checked the formatting one last time.
- The Glass, which was published decades ago, still holds surprising current.
- After several minutes of discussion, however, the group changed its name.
- The long, complicated instructions confused several students.
- I wanted to stop for the meeting, so I ended my ride that I would be late.
- The students carrying papers should not outside the auditorium.
- Yes, I can meet you after practice Jordan.
- The debate topics, Maps, requested the evidence one three clear categories.

COMMA RULES REVIEW

NEED PRACTICE – CONTINUED

- Are agreed the document and checked the formatting one last time.
- The Glass, which was published decades ago, still holds surprising current.
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COMMA RULES REVIEW

KNOWLEDGE

- The committee ordered pizza, salad, breadsticks, and lemonade.
RULE 1 – ITEMS IN A SERIES
- We entered the quiet, dim hallway and listened for footsteps.
RULE 2 – COORDINATE ADJECTIVES
- Lena wanted to revise her conclusion, but she ran out of time.
RULE 3 – INDEPENDENT CLAUSES
- Daniel, who lives in Chicago, is visiting this weekend.
RULE 4 – NONESSENTIAL INFORMATION
- Before the final bell rang, the students packed their bags.
RULE 5 – INTRODUCTORY ELEMENTS
- Marcus please bring your draft to the conference table.
RULE 6 – INTERRUPTERS
- On Tuesday, September 8, 2026, the club will meet in Erie, Pennsylvania.
RULE 7 – DATES, PLACES & CORRESPONDENCE

EXIT TICKET

EXIT TICKET ANSWER KEY

- After the rehearsal ended, the cast gathered backstage.
- The narrow, winding road led us to the overlook.
- Rule 3 – Independent Clauses
- No comma is needed.
Opened and copied share the same subject, Nora. The sentence has a compound verb rather than two independent clauses.



Includes examples that need commas, plus a few that **do not**.

PRACTICE. CHECK. REINFORCE. MASTER THE SEVEN COMMA RULES.

Easy to Use in Class

Everything you need for a focused, effective comma rules lesson—ready to teach.



Teacher
Support
Built In

TEACHER QUICK START

COMMA RULES REVIEW

TEACHER QUICK START

A low-prep review of seven common comma rules for secondary ELA. Use the slides and guided notes for instruction, then move into mixed practice and a quick exit ticket.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- Items in a series
- Coordinate adjectives
- Independent clauses • FANBOYS
- Essential vs. nonessential information
- Introductory elements
- Interrupters
- Dates, places, and correspondence

WHAT TO PREPARE

- Project the instructional slide deck.
- Print one guided-notes packet per student.
- Print the mixed practice when students are ready to work independently.
- Print exit tickets two per page and cut before class, if desired.
- Keep answer-key pages for teacher reference.

SUGGESTED LESSON SEQUENCE

1 Teach • Note

Project the slides while students complete the guided notes. Pause for each Try It example.

2 Practice

Students complete the mixed practice and identify the rule(s) they used.

3 Review

Check responses together or use the answer key for independent correction.

4 Exit Check

Use the four-question exit ticket to see who is ready to move on and who needs reteaching.

TIMING

Plan for about one class period for instruction • guided notes. The mixed practice can be completed in class, assigned for follow-up, or used the next day before the exit ticket.

USE IT WHEN

Introducing comma conventions, reteaching common errors, reviewing before a writing assignment, or refreshing punctuation skills before editing and revision.

Teaching note: The practice intentionally mixes rule types, and a few sentences require no comma. Encourage students to explain their punctuation choice rather than assuming every sentence must contain a comma.

“The planning is done for you. Just project, print, and go!”

LOW PREP

Slides, notes, practice, and exit ticket—all included.

FLEXIBLE

One class period or split into two.

VERSATILE

Great for review, reteaching, or writing workshop refreshers.

SIMPLE LESSON FLOW

1



TEACH WITH SLIDES

Clear mini-lessons and examples build understanding.

2



STUDENTS COMPLETE GUIDED NOTES

Structured notes keep students focused and engaged.

3



ASSIGN MIXED PRACTICE

Students apply rules with varied, real-world sentences.

4



CHECK UNDERSTANDING WITH EXIT TICKET

Quick check helps you see who's ready and who needs more support.

COMMA RULES REVIEW

The Seven Comma Rules

Use this overview as a quick refresher.

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- 7 Dates, Places & Correspondence

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SLIDES

Comma Rules Review

GUIDED NOTES

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Rule 1: Items in a Series

Use commas to separate _____ or more items in a series.

Example: I went to the store to buy _____, _____, and _____.

Rule 2: Coordinate Adjectives

Use commas between two adjectives that equally describe the same noun.

Example: _____, _____, and _____ were all excited.

Rule 3: Independent Clauses

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction when it joins two independent clauses.

Example: _____, _____, and _____.

Rule 4: Nonessential Information

Use commas to set off extra information that is not necessary to the meaning of the sentence.

Example: _____, _____, and _____.

Rule 5: Introductory Elements

Use a comma after an introductory phrase or clause.

Example: _____, _____, and _____.

Rule 6: Interrupters

Use commas to set off words or phrases that interrupt the flow of a sentence.

Example: _____, _____, and _____.

Rule 7: Dates, Places & Correspondence

Use commas to separate the day, month, and year; the city and state; and the street and city and state.

Example: _____, _____, and _____.

GUIDED NOTES

COMMA RULES REVIEW

MIXED PRACTICE

- Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____
- Directions: Add commas directly to each sentence where needed. Some sentences need commas and some need none. Then identify the rule number(s) that explain your choice.
1. The committee ordered pizza salad breadsticks and lemonade for the meeting.
Rule(s): _____
 2. We went to the quiet dim hallway and listened for footsteps.
Rule(s): _____
 3. Lena wanted to review her conclusion but she ran out of time.
Rule(s): _____

MIXED PRACTICE

COMMA RULES REVIEW

EXIT TICKET

- Name: _____ Period: _____
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 3. Which rule explains the comma in this sentence?
I wanted to finish the chapter, but I was too tired to keep reading.
Rule: _____
 4. Explain why no comma is needed.
Nora opened her notebook and copied the assignment.

EXIT TICKET

CLEAR SUPPORT. FLEXIBLE USE. CONFIDENT TEACHING.