

Commas – Exercise 1

Choose the correct answer for each question. Then, write a short but complete explanation of WHY it is the correct answer. (“I guessed” is NOT an acceptable explanation.) Please use your “When To Use a Comma” Notes.

1. During **lunch**, at the campus cafeteria, Mildred noticed the dirty tables, the overworked **cashiers**, and the exorbitant price for a watery soda.
- A. Should you remove the comma after **lunch**?
 - B. Or should you remove the comma after **cashiers**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

2. The **slimy smelly** lettuce on my **burrito made** me ask the manager to return my money.
- A. Should you add a comma after **slimy**?
 - B. Or should you add a comma after **burrito**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

3. Karen wasn't sure if she needed a comma or **not so** she drew in a smudge that could pass for a **comma or** a stray pen mark.
- A. Should you add a comma after **not**?
 - B. Or should you use a comma after **comma**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

4. Abbie bought a new **dictionary**, so that she could proofread for spelling **errors on** her next in-class essay.
- A. Should you remove the comma after **dictionary**?
 - B. Or should you add a comma after **errors**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

5. Last weekend, Brenda had time to wash clothes. The dishes, **however were** piled all over the kitchen **counter and** in the sink.
- A. Should you add a comma after **however**?
 - B. Or should you add a comma after **counter**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

6. “Don't give me that **look Marlin**,” warned **Mrs. Clemmons**, who held his paycheck in her hand.
- A. Should you add a comma after **look**?
 - B. Or should you remove the comma after **Mrs. Clemmons**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

7. Winning the **lottery** would create more headaches than the money is **worth but** Fred still buys a ticket every week.
- A. Should you add a comma after **lottery**?
 - B. Or should you add a comma after **worth** ?

Explanation/Rule: _____

8. Marley, a “barkless” **pup will** scream like a human **child if** we don't feed her pizza crust quickly enough.
- A. Should you add a comma after **pup**?
 - B. Or should you add a comma after **child**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

9. At the bakery where she worked, Kori happily took one order after **another**, enjoying the fast pace of Sunday afternoon. Kim, on the other **hand had** a killer headache from the constant noise and flood of hungry customers.
- A. Should you remove the comma after **another**?
 - B. Or should you add a comma after **hand**?

Explanation/Rule: _____

