

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #48

FOCUS Commas within Series

Use commas after each item, phrase, or clause in a series (except the last). A series is a list.

CONNECT TO WRITING

Newspapers and some magazines delete the last comma; however, most style manuals still require the last comma.

Examples: John, Jan, and Jose left early.
 If crazy Mary, unpredictable Bobby, or silly Joe were up to something, I would know about it.
 The crowd hushed, the lights dimmed, and the fireworks began.

PRACTICE

Place commas where needed in the following sentences.

1. Jane Mike and Ray pulled the car off to the side.
2. Along the road an old car two broomsticks and a funny green-eyed monster stood guard.
3. Take a hike smell the flowers and enjoy life for the rest of the afternoon.
4. Joan counted one two three four five.

Fill in the blanks with the word groups listed below and properly punctuate.

5. _____ are my favorite colors.
6. They ordered _____ for breakfast.
7. Mr. Burt called on one of the following students: _____.

Jaime Marta or Frank blue green and yellow eggs bacon and wheat toast

WRITE

Compose your own sentence with commas after each phrase in a list (except the last).

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet Answers

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #50 Practice Answers

1. Lawton, Nevada is my hometown.
2. Olympia, Washington is a beautiful capital.
3. Bogota, Colombia seems like a fascinating city.
4. Glendale, Texas is a nice place to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there.
5. I live at 3442 Spring Street in Irvine, South Carolina.
6. I wrote a letter addressed to: Mo Lawson, 34 North Main St., Columbus Ohio.
7. Amador City, California has post office boxes for its residents.
8. St. Petersburg, Russia used to be the capital of that country.
9. When did Juneau, Alaska reach a population of 10,000?

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #51 Practice Answers

1. Listen to me, Barbara, and then make up your own mind.
2. That's a dangerous thought you've shared, Bud.
3. Look, Jane, it's going to be hard at first.
4. Sitting by the sofa, she said, "Henry, get over here."
5. I just don't know, Bobby.
6. Tawny, watch where you're going.
7. If you notice, Peter and Kris, none of that will be on the test.
8. Look, Paul, and see here, Julie, you both have missed the main point.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #52 Practice Answers

1. Neither he wanted to face the problem, nor did she want to deal with that challenge.
2. In order that all people would have the same chance, they decided to draw numbers.
3. Raymond sent a message to his cousin, but the message was returned unopened.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #53 Practice Answers

Left Letter—Dear Ralph, ... Yours truly
Right Letter—To Whom It May Concern, ... Sincerely,

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #54 Practice Answers

1. Around the corner she ran into a large, angry dog.
2. If I didn't know better, I would guess that the tired, old woman was not going to leave her house.
3. The funny green character said, "I'm crazy, silly, and full of energy."
4. Unless I'm mistaken, the usual cloudy, gray morning will change to afternoon sun and wind.
5. The book is creative, surprising, delightful, and completely entertaining.
6. The girls are cheerful, helpful, and careful to mind their manners.
7. I left the yucky blue and white board in the stinky, dirty garage.