

LEVEL 1 - DOUBLE ADJECTIVES AND COMMA SERIES

Directions: Identify where commas need to go in the following sentences. Rewrite the sentences in the space provided to reflect the comma series rule.

These trends discourage all compassionate people, darken our prospect, and chill our faith.

He arose, he smiled, and he began to speak.

The farmer sold corn, hay, oats, potatoes, and wheat.

He looked behind the door, under the table, and beneath the chair.

He walked, he trotted, and finally he ran.

George, John, Larry, and Sam were chosen to represent our class.

The student brought his slide rule, compass, protractor, and books to class.

The vice president, the manager, and the clerk prepared separate statements.

The girls were discussing the major topics of the day--clothes, hairstyles, and boys.

LEVEL 2 - DOUBLE ADJECTIVES AND COMMA SERIES

Directions: **Identify** if the following sentences need commas. Then, **categorize/label** the sentences, acknowledging if it is (C) Correct, (CS) Comma Series, or (DA) Double Adjective. Finally, **place** commas where they need to go!

- CS Most children enjoy playing games, riding bicycles, and engaging in make-believe.
- CS Harry will need more nails, screws, and glue to finish that bookcase.
- C Pete More carried a lunch pail that was old and battered.
- DA That thick, warm rug looks real cozy in front of the fireplace.
- C Tracy stifled a smile that was small and internal.
- DA We enjoyed the clean, crisp smell of the mountain air.
- CS Frank packed the books in boxes, sealed them up, and took them to the post office.
- C That year was the end of hunger and the end of the good old days.
- DA Beth was a student whose intelligent, conscientious mind earned her good grades.
- CS Jim and Joan will be visiting Amsterdam, Paris, and London on their trip this fall.
- CS Have you had chicken pox, mumps, or measles?
- C We had lasagna and garlic bread for supper.
- C Dr. Bean gave us a hard final examination.
- CS He worked quickly, quietly, and accurately.
- C Each morning he would go past our house and wait on the corner to catch his ride.
- DA She ate the sweet, juicy apple quickly.
- DA Her silent, cold eyes revealed nothing.
- CS I want you to finish your homework, take a bath, and be in bed before 9:30.
- DA The awkward, shy teenager felt nervous about his first date.

LEVEL 3 - DOUBLE ADJECTIVES AND COMMA SERIES

Directions: Create sentences that pertain to the various themes and sentence requirements.

Prompt 1: Describe your mother or father (or another family member) in at least 5 complete sentences. Two (2) of your five sentences must contain double/coordinate adjectives.

My mother is the fun, zany mom everyone wants to have. Her bright, outgoing personality is infectious; she becomes instant friends with almost everyone she meets. Even the grocery store baggers know her name! My mom lives in Michigan, so I miss her very much.

Prompt 2: You are heading on vacation. In at least 5 sentences, describe what you need to do or bring on your vacation. Two (2) of your five sentences must use a series/listing comma.

I am so excited for my vacation to Nashville. I need to pack my denim jeans, flannel shirts, and cowboy boots. Once we check into our hotel, we will listen to a lot of live music on Broadway. I can't wait to sing country music, eat a copious amount of BBQ, and even meet some famous people!

LEVEL 4 - DOUBLE ADJECTIVES AND COMMA SERIES

Directions: You are the teacher. A student in your class has submitted an assignment where the goal was to have a paragraph with all complete sentences and thoughts, using commas appropriately. Proofread the student's essay, labelling each sentence if it uses commas appropriately or not.

Text:

(1) Michigan State University is a fun, exciting place to be, especially on gamedays. (2) The campus is large ~~and~~ sprawling ~~and~~ green. This past weekend, I went to State to see my friends tailgate for the game, and watch State beat Oregon. (3) The game was a rematch from last year but without Heisman trophy winner Marcus Mariota. (4) Michigan State fought valiantly and ended up winning the game. (5) However, their special teams needs to work on wrapping up tackles, stopping big plays, and restricting the run game. (6) Mark Dantonio is a stern, caring coach who has consistently developed players into all stars. (7) I am excited for the exciting matchup between Michigan State and Ohio State later this year.

Directions: Respond in the appropriate space if each student's sentence actually uses commas accurately, and explain **why, using words from our notes/practice problems.**

1. Correct
2. The campus is large, sprawling, and green.
3. Correct
4. Correct
5. Create comma series
6. stern, caring - double adjective
7. Correct

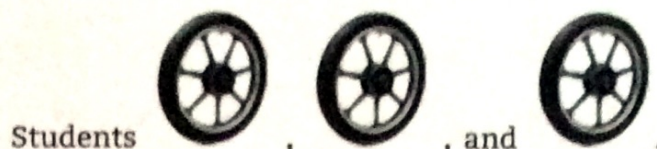
Directions: What areas does this student still need to work on? Do you feel this student has mastered Simple Sentences? **Explain and justify your answer in 2 sentences.**

Only a few mistakes!

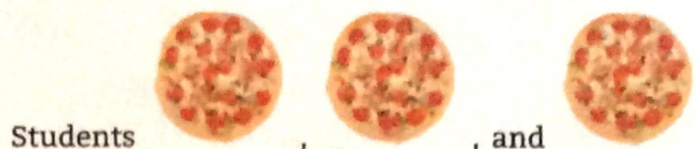
LEVEL 5 - DOUBLE ADJECTIVES AND COMMA SERIES

Directions: When creating a list, you notice that there seems to be a LOT of consistency between the items in a list; this allows for the reader to make sense of a number of items in a row that could otherwise be confusing. This consistency across three or more items in a list is known as **parallel structure**.

Parallel structure creates consistency for all items in a list. Items are all "wheels" or "pizza". The wheels could be nouns; pizza could be verb phrases.



Students like books, paper, and pencils.



Students like going to the mall, hanging out with friends, and texting.

Directions: Read and evaluate if the following sentences maintain parallel structure with the comma series rule in mind.

1. Monica brewed espresso, steamed milk, and told jokes as she prepared Mike's latte.

parallel

2. Natasha tried holding her breath, chewing a piece of gum, and poking her belly, but she could not quiet her empty stomach, which rumbled during the chemistry exam.

parallel

3. In the restroom, Tishena was brushing her hair, freshened her lip-gloss, and took deep breaths, trying to work up the courage to walk to her first speech class.

↑ change to past tense to be parallel

4. Celine looked behind the toilet, in the laundry basket, and checked under the bed, but she could not find Squeeze, her nine-foot albino python.

↑ add a past tense verb to be parallel

5. Spiders that bite, hissing snakes, and squealing rodents fill the aquariums in Desmond's basement.

↑ Change to "Biting spiders" to be parallel.