

**29.2****Commas That Set Off Added Elements  
(Introductory Material, Parenthetical Expressions)****• Practice 1****Commas After Introductory Material** Use a comma after an introductory word, phrase, or clause.

INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL
<i>Introductory Word:</i> No, I don't think I can go.
<i>Introductory Phrase:</i> Reaching the lake, she searched for her canoe.
<i>Introductory Clause:</i> When she entered the building, she was confused and frightened.

**Commas With Parenthetical Expressions** Use commas to set off parenthetical expressions.

PARENTHETICAL EXPRESSIONS
<i>Names of People Being Addressed:</i> I know, Susan, that you will do well.
<i>Certain Adverbs:</i> I decided, therefore, to wait.
<i>Common Expressions:</i> Mr. Wong agreed, I believe, to go.
<i>Contrasting Expressions:</i> The room is narrow, not wide.

**Exercise 1** **Recognizing Introductory Material.** Write the introductory word, phrase, or clause in each sentence, and add the needed comma.

**EXAMPLE:** Yes I will attend. \_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_

- No I'm afraid his excuse was not acceptable. \_\_\_\_\_
- To grow corn you need fertile soil. \_\_\_\_\_
- Determined she stalked into the office. \_\_\_\_\_
- If she sings I'm sure she will win. \_\_\_\_\_
- Waiting patiently she saw the bear emerge. \_\_\_\_\_
- When I try I can write very well. \_\_\_\_\_
- Since you wrote the situation has changed entirely. \_\_\_\_\_
- Cary why don't you use my typewriter? \_\_\_\_\_
- To improve our game we practiced every night. \_\_\_\_\_
- Really I'm not sure about this new plan of yours. \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 2** **Using Commas Correctly.** Add commas where they are needed in each sentence.

**EXAMPLE:** His ability not his personality is the issue.  
His ability, not his personality, is the issue.

- Her room unfortunately is right over the garage.
- Mrs. Eriksen will you explain that answer again.
- Our vacation is near the end of July not in August.
- Although she is excellent at ballet she prefers modern dance.
- His refusal I am certain can easily be explained.
- Smiling happily she raced to the front door.
- You know of course that the President will speak.
- Yes I certainly would like to visit Walden Pond.
- To stop the retreat the army landed paratroopers.
- The decision consequently was reversed by the court.