

29.2

Commas That Set Off Added Elements

(Places, Dates, Titles, Other Uses) • Practice 1

Commas With Places, Dates, and Titles When a geographical name or a date is made up of two or more parts, use a comma after each item except in the case of a month followed by a day. Use commas to set off a title following a name.

Geographical Name	Houston, Texas, is a rapidly growing city.
Date	On September 19, 1939, German panzers invaded Poland.
Name With Title	Jim Thon, M.D., discussed safe ways to lose weight.

Other Uses of the Comma Use commas in the situations shown in the chart below.

Address	Send the package to J. Brown, 10 Elk Lane, Glen Cove, New York 11542.
Salutation and Closing	Dear Peter, Very truly yours,
Numbers	31,654 envelopes
Elliptical Sentence	Lorraine plays the guitar; her brother Sam, the flute.
Direct Quotation	"In a few minutes," laughed Julio, "you'll know the surprise."
To Prevent Confusion	For Carla, Jonas had designed a unique costume.

Exercise 1

Adding Commas to Sentences. Insert commas where they are needed.

EXAMPLE: Sean Miles D.D.S. lectured on dental hygiene.

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1. Write to Real-Trucks 72 Wall Avenue Norwalk Connecticut 06850.
2. The math assignment took forty-five minutes; the science an hour.
3. The population of the next county is 42375.
4. The band director remarked "We'll have our next rehearsal on January 10."
5. John Briggs Jr. inherited his father's business.
6. After the storm clouds were white and fleecy.
7. On June 20 1793 Eli Whitney applied for a patent for his cotton gin.
8. In 1957 the United States had 1558691 hospital beds in 6818 hospitals.
9. "For the last time" exclaimed Sue "will you be quiet!"
10. In spring planting begins.

Exercise 2

Punctuating a Letter. Add commas wherever necessary in the following letter.

154 Morris Drive
Los Angeles California 90039
October 12 1985

Dear Pam

I am researching the Lindbergh kidnapping case. On March 1 1932 Lindbergh's eighteen-month-old son was taken from the Lindbergh home in Hopewell New Jersey. A ransom note demanding \$50000 was found. Bruno Hauptmann was arrested for the crime on September 15 1934. Police found \$14000 of the ransom money in his home. Found guilty, Hauptmann was executed on April 3 1936.

Your friend

Gina