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Commas

Commas

are used to separate words and groups of words so that they are easier to read and understand.

We use Commas

1. Before coordinating conjunctions
2. To separate words in a series

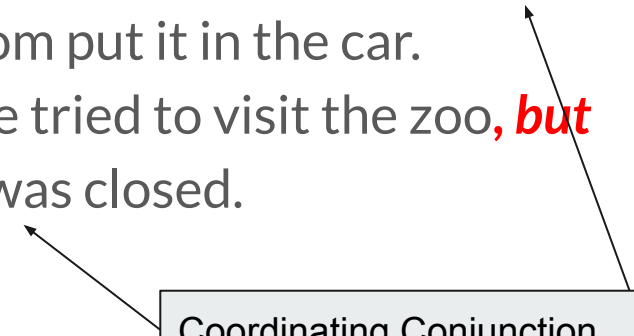


Commas before coordinating conjunctions.

We use a comma before coordinating conjunctions: *and, or, but* to separate a compound sentence.

Example:

1. I packed my backpack, *and* mom put it in the car.
2. We tried to visit the zoo, *but* it was closed.



Coordinating Conjunction



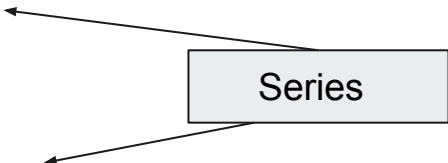
Commas are used in a series of words.

Three more words written one after another are called a series.

Commas are used to separate the words in the series. Coordinating conjunction *and*, *or* are often used in a series.

Example:

1. I drew a picture of the *mountains, sun, and clouds.*



Series

2. I ate a *hotdog, potato salad, and corn.*

Let's give it a try!

Which sentence uses commas correctly?

- A. We practiced our italian, and hoped to use it in Italy.
- B. Jane bought a basketball and her brother bought a football.
- C. We didn't have good weather, but we still had fun.

If you chose “C” you’re right!

We didn’t have good weather, *but* we still had fun.

Which sentence uses commas correctly?

- A. Pizza, hamburgers, and corndogs, are some of my favorite foods.
- B. I love to play basketball, baseball, and volleyball.
- C. We need to pack water kneepads and and a basketball.

If you chose “B” you’re right!

I love to play basketball, baseball, *and* volleyball.



Remember!

Commas are used:

1. Separate a series of words.
2. Before using a Coordinating conjunctions, *and*, *or*, *but*.