

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hr. \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMA RULES Notetaking Packet**

(Wallenberg--revised 6/24/2003)

RULES 1-3 =

\_\_\_\_ / 25

**RULE #1 → SERIES**

See EWS, p. 552

Use a comma to separate words or word groups in a  
**SERIES**

(\_\_\_\_ + items)

How many items = "a series"?

**What constitutes a series? (do this list in class)**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**When you have a series,  
use 1 less comma than the total # of items.**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 Maja Angelou has written novels plays and poems.

ex. 2 We ate salad garlic bread spaghetti and meatballs and apple pie for dinner last night.

ex. 3 Kindergarten teaches us to take turns follow in line flush and sit quietly for hours.

ex. 4 My favorite movies are Shawshank Redemption Holes Renaissance Man Hamlet  
and Ferris Bueller's Day Off.

ex. 5 I knew I was in trouble when my mother asked me to go upstairs not to talk to my  
brother shut my door and wait in my room until my father got home.

**NOTE: When you have a series of items with internal commas, separate the items with a  
SEMI-COLON.**

ex. 6 We have lived in Paris France San Diego California Hibbing Minnesota  
and Bloomington Illinois.

\_\_\_\_ / 5

Continue by reading the next rule on p. 552 in the EWS grammar book.

**RULE #2 --> 2+ADJ**  
**EWS notes p. 552**

Use a comma to separate \_\_\_\_\_ or more  
how many?

## ADJECTIVES

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(remember! Adjectives are words that  
describe NOUNS = (\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_))

and

answer one of

these 4 questions:

1. what kind? [a red car]
2. which one? [that house]
3. how many? [three wishes]
4. whose? [her iguana]

when the word \_\_\_\_\_ can be placed between the adjectives.  
which word?

**NOTE:** Do not use commas between the last adjective and the noun that follows it. Sometimes, you should NOT use a comma between adjectives preceding a noun.

Use a comma if the word AND would make sense in its place.

**Example:** *The creaky wooden canoe seemed unsafe.* (No commas are necessary between the adjectives.)

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas (if needed)!**

ex. 1 Stanley Yelnats was a caring trustworthy kid.

ex. 2 Mr. Sir was a yelling nasty guidance counselor.

ex. 3 Our awesome winning pitcher was in a slump last season.

ex. 4 Metallica gives rowdy exciting world tours.

ex. 5 It was a frustrating dull and worthless class.

ex. 6 Matt is a tremendous baseball player.

ex. 7 I wore my blue ripped Cubs hat.



Practice time! Fill in the missing commas (if needed)!

ex. 1 She runs and she lifts weights.

ex. 2 She runs and lifts weights.

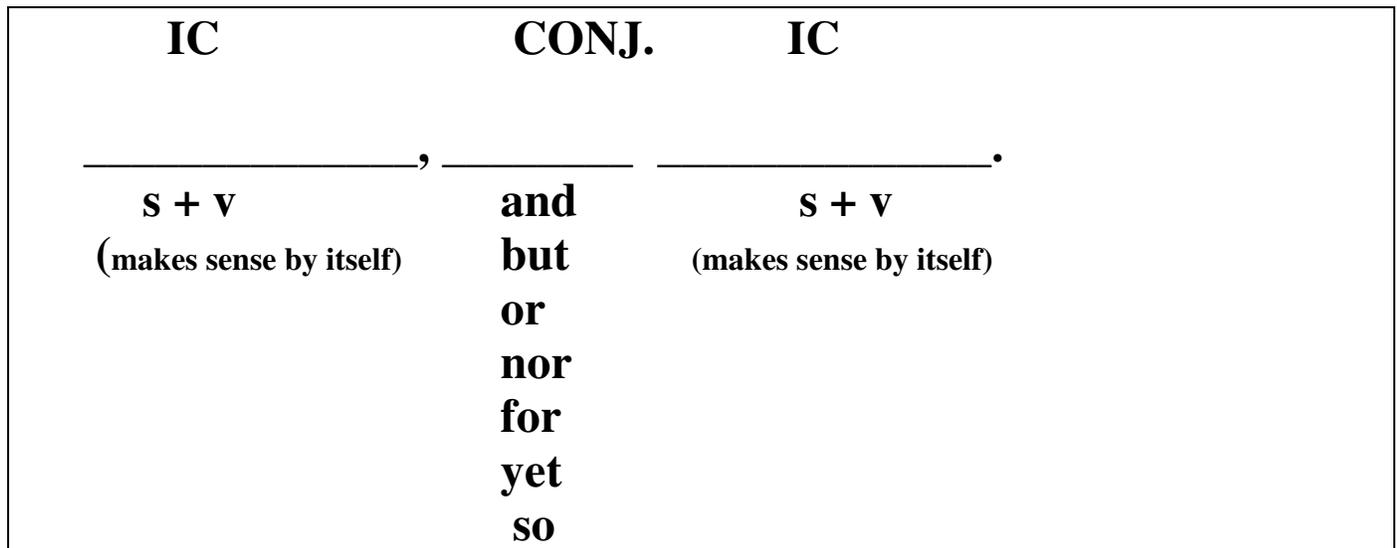
ex. 3 She lifts weights when she runs.

-->WARNING! Careful on the next one. It's tricky! (Hint! understood you)

ex. 4 Accept the challenge and go for it!

Here is a diagram to help visualize the CC RULE.

CC DIAGRAM:



Practice time! Fill in the missing commas (if needed)!

1. Wilbur works out but he never competes.
2. He diets but he never loses weight.
3. He diets but never loses weight.
4. We like pepfests yet sometimes they're a waste of time.
5. She didn't go out with him last year nor does she want to date him this year.

--> WARNING! The next two are especially tricky! (Look at the different uses of the word "so.")

6. She got mono so she quit school for a quarter.
7. He joined the Peace Corp so he could avoid the draft.

**NOTE: if you can easily put the word "that" after the "so," you should write it that way, and you will, therefore, not have an IC on the right.**

**Now continue with #8-15.**

**NOTE: Some sentences need commas added BECAUSE OF THE SERIES and 2+ADJ RULES!!!! (Review time!)**

8. She quit school so her boyfriend quit.
9. She quit school so that her boyfriend would quit.
10. She quit school because her boyfriend quit.
11. Wait until 2:15 and then go to Burger King with me. (HINT! Look for the “understood “you”)
12. Our principal gave this year’s inspiring humorous graduation speech he rarely gives speeches.
13. We ate chicken salad and veggies and then we had the most delectable dessert.  
Which comma rule(s) apply to this sentence? \_\_\_\_\_
14. The refreshing salty air blew from the sea but I was still very chilled.  
Which comma rules apply to this sentence? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
15. Will and Sean are amazing dedicated students so they better take Wally’s senior advanced English class.  
Which comma rules apply to this sentence? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

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Now turn to the EWS text and do exercise 3 from p. 553. Do this exercise below or on your own notebook paper. It's worth 5 points. Do not skip over it!

**EXERCISE 3, p. 553**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hr. \_\_\_\_ Due date \_\_\_\_\_

Continue your notes on the Comma Rules by reading the next rule on p. 553-554 in the EWS grammar book. These are rather difficult.

RULE 4 =

       / 30

**EWS pp. 553-4**

**RULE #4 --> THE THREE INTRO RULES**

**HERE IS THE BASIC FORMULA FOR ANY OF THE 3 INTRO RULES:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
word, phrase, or IC (S + V and makes sense by itself)  
dependent clause

**RULE 4.a.--->INTRO WORD RULE (IW)**

Use a comma after

**SHORT INTRODUCTORY WORDS**

such as: YES, NO, WELL, OH, STILL, NOW, YET, WHY

and **TRANSITIONAL EXPRESSIONS**

such as: HOWEVER, CONSEQUENTLY,  
ACCORDINGLY, THUS, HENCE, THEREFORE,  
BESIDES

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 Yes I'd love free Superbowl tickets.

ex. 2 Well we'll have to talk to your dad about it.

**WARNING! Be careful putting in commas when sentences with the words "WHY," "BESIDES," "HOWEVER," and "ALTHOUGH." Think about how these words are actually functioning in the sentence before putting in the comma too quickly!**

Look at the difference between the way the word "why" is being used in ex. 3 and ex. 4:

ex. 3 Why what big ears you have!

ex. 4 Why do the seniors have open campus?

       / 5

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 5 My sister told on me. Hence I'm grounded.

ex. 6 It took Andy three years to make the varsity tennis team. However his brother made it his freshman year.

**WARNING! Be careful putting in commas when sentences start with the word "BESIDES." Think about what its function is in the next three sentences before putting in the comma too quickly!**

**NOTE:** What goes after the comma MUST be an IC (that means it is able to stand alone (has a subj and a verb) AND makes total sense by itself !!!

ex. 7 It won't be so awful staying in that hotel. Besides it's only for one night.

\_\_\_\_\_ ex. 8 Besides my interest in band I don't like most of my classes.  
rule?

ex. 9 Besides I'd rather have a full schedule than too much free time.

\_\_\_\_\_ ex. 10 Besides my cat and hamster I really don't like pets.  
rule?

**NOTE:** The word "ALTHOUGH" is often misused to mean "HOWEVER." NEVER put a comma directly after the word "although." Look at the various uses of the words, "although" and "however," in the following sentences.

ex. 11 Although I really like snakes. (*FRAGMENT!!!!*)  
*You meant to write this instead: However I really like snakes. (Put in the comma.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ ex. 12 Although he's injured he still goes to the games. (*Put in the comma. Hint: we haven't gone over this rule yet, but give it your best guess.*)  
rule?

ex. 13 I failed my math class although I really liked it. (*Is there a comma? If so, put it in. If not, explain why not here: \_\_\_\_\_*)

ex. 14 However I still plan to see The Two Towers before it's out on video. (*Put in the comma.*)

\_\_\_\_\_ ex. 15 However you like your eggs I'll be glad to make them for you (*Put in the comma. Hint: we haven't gone over this rule yet, but give it your best guess.*)  
rule?

## RULE 4.b.-->INTRO PHRASE RULE (IP)

Use a comma after rather long

(long is defined as 4+words)

### INTRO PHRASES

(a "phrase" is group of related words without both a subject AND a verb) which lead into the sentence but which are NOT the "meat" or "main part" of the sentence.

Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!

ex. 1 After a long and hearty breakfast he went back to sleep.

ex. 2 After breakfast he went back to sleep.

ex. 3 After eating a big breakfast he went back to sleep.

ex. 4 During most boring lectures I fall asleep.

WARNING! THIS NEXT ONE IS TRICKY! IT IS EXPLAINED IN THE NOTE BELOW!

ex. 5 After eating cats like to sleep.

**NOTE: If the phrase (no matter what length) has a VERB in it, you MUST put a comma after it!**

*ex. After eating, he worked out.*

*ex. To get credit for the class, I'll need your make-up work.*

*ex. While practicing, I tore my ACL.*

*ex. Having considered quitting, I now have a renewed interest in hockey.*

Now, try these:

ex. 6 While practicing piano my C# key broke.

ex. 7 Before performing Eric Clapton usually takes a long nap.

ex. 8 To understand Calculus you must study the rudiments of math.

**THE “TIME” RULE:** It is almost always optional to put a comma after a **SHORT** (3 words or less) expression of time **or** after **SHORT** introductory phrases that answer questions of **when?**

(examples: yesterday, today, tomorrow, currently, recently, early next month, last year, this year, in ten years, in 2005, etc.)

**or**

**how often?**

(examples: often, never, frequently, occasionally, intermittently, rarely, from time to time, rarely, once in a blue moon, etc.)

**or**

**where?**

(examples: here, there, in the bookstore, at the office, on her desk, in the classroom, in Eden Prairie)

**NOTE:** You may usually put those commas in for clarification or simply because you would almost never be wrong to do so. Most grammarians do, however, regard this as an option. **“When in doubt, don’t leave it out!”**

**Practice time!** Fill in the missing commas! Circle “REQ” if the comma is REQUIRED and “OPT” if the comma is OPTIONAL. If the comma is REQUIRED, write the rule down, too!

REQ OPT ex. 1 Tomorrow morning you may need to catch up on your sleep.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 2 Usually it takes some time to understand these comma rules.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 3 Often we run over our allotted time.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 4 To conclude life in the 1930's was quite different than life today.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 5 Near your computer you'll find that editing packet you forgot.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 6 Having eaten sushi I can say there is nothing better on this planet!  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 7 While cleaning she found a molded apple under his bed.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 8 In the evening the Internet goes wild.  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 9 After reconsidering I will accept your offer. /5  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

REQ OPT ex. 10 Never do we have a ninth grader who can pass the comma test  
Rule? \_\_\_\_\_ without ever opening the grammar text.

**RULE 4.c.--->INTRO DC RULE (IDC)**

**EWS p. 553 (bottom)**

**Use a comma after an introductory DEPENDENT CLAUSE (DC)**

|  
*a group of related words with a SUBJ and a VERB  
which doesn't make sense by itself*

**which leads into the sentence but is NOT the "meat" or the main part of the sentence. (NOTE: # OF WORDS IS IRRELEVANT WITH an INTRO DC—unlike with an INTRO PHRASE.)**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas! Circle the INTRO RULES which apply.**

IW IP IDC ex. 1 After he ate breakfast he ran a mile.

IW IP IDC ex. 2 When the settlers lost all of their family was in mourning.

IW IP IDC ex. 3 Although his parents make him angry he appreciates their support.

IW IP IDC ex. 4 Because he rollerblades all summer he can skate faster than I.

IW IP IDC ex. 5 Between you and me those pronoun rules seemed pretty ridiculous.

IW IP IDC ex. 6 During the worst blizzards in memory Halloween was almost cancelled.

IW IP IDC ex. 7 **TRICKY!** The Cubs won their division after they won they went on to win the World Series. (*Are you dreaming, Wally?*)

**HINT: 2 rules apply to sentence 8. Circle 2 rules.**

IW IP IDC ex. 8 You said that you weren't scared of witches but when  
SERIES 2+ADJ CC that witch jumped out at you I think you lied.

**Write 1 sentence of your own applying 1 of the three INTRO rules you have learned so far:**

**STUDENT SENTENCE:** INTRO WORD or INTRO PHRASE or INTRO DC? (circle)

.....  
Now turn to the EWS text and do exercise 4 from p. 555. Do this exercise below or on your own notebook paper. It's worth 5 points. Do not skip over it!

**EXERCISE 4, p. 555**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hr. \_\_\_\_\_ Due date \_\_\_\_\_

RULES 5-9 =  
\_\_\_\_\_/ 40

**RULE #5--->DIR (DIRECT ADDRESS):**

(see EWS p. 554)

Read the rule sandwiched in between the INTRO RULES in the last third of p. 554 in the EWS grammar book. This is the one about addressing someone directly. It is truly a type of INTRO word, but because the DIR rule applies to directly addressing someone at the end of a sentence and in the middle of a sentence, too, we have chosen to give it its own RULE!

**When you address someone directly, put a comma directly after his/her name if the name comes at the beginning of the sentence.**

**Likewise, when someone's name (whom you are directly addressing) comes at the end of the sentence, put a comma directly before his/her name.**

**If you are addressing someone in the middle of a sentence, put a comma before and after it to separate it from the rest of the sentence.**

Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!

ex. 1 "David I'd like you to meet Emily, " said his mother.

ex. 2 "You have another thousand push-ups to do Adam," said Coach Tobin.

ex. 3. The coach asked, "How often do you train in the off-season Tony?"

ex. 4. "Elementary my dear!" said Holmes to Watson.

ex. 5. "I'm speaking to George about this!" yelled Sara. **TRICKY!**

ex. 6. "You better listen George or else you will miss the point," said Sam.

\_\_\_\_\_/5

**RULE #6 --> NOT**  
(see EWS pp. 555-6)

Use a comma to separate **CONTRASTING**  
(*opposites*)  
words, phrases, and clauses introduced by the word **NOT**.

Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!

ex. 1 Katie thinks Paul is a great guy not a jerk.

ex. 2 Let's meet them after the game not beforehand.

ex. 3 My favorite baseball team is the Cubs not the Cardinals.

HERE'S A POTENTIAL TRICKY ONE:

ex. 4 He is not awake.

Does this sentence apply to the "NOT" rule?  
Why or why not?

Now, make up two of your own examples using the "NOT" rule. Place the comma correctly

ex. 5 \_\_\_\_\_

ex. 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Now, make up two example sentences putting the comma(s) in correctly using the rules listed in the left column. **BE PREPARED TO SHARE THESE IN CLASS!!**

**RULES NEEDED                      YOUR ORIGINAL SENTENCE USING REQUIRED RULES**

NOT DIR INTRO DC (IDC)	
NOT CC INTRO PHRASE (IP)	

**RULE # 7 --> DQ (direct quotation)**

(see EWS top of p. 556)

Use a comma to separate

**DIRECT QUOTATIONS**

|

*when you quote someone's words exactly*

from the rest of the sentence.

**WARNING!** Be careful when you see the word “that” before what looks like a DQ! The word “that” most often signals that the words following “that” are an **INDIRECT QUOTE**.

**Example 1:** Ron said, “Sirius Black is a crafty villain.”

*Note: there is a comma after “said” because a DQ follows!*

**Example 2:** Ron said that Sirius Black is a crafty villain.

*Note: there is NOT a comma after “said” because an INDIRECT QUOTE follows!*

**MSF REMINDERS!**

You have to know these to place punctuation correctly in quotations marks.

\* **PERIODS** and **COMMAS** always go **INSIDE** quotation marks.

\* **QUESTION MARKS** and **EXCLAMATION POINTS** depend on the situation.

**ALSO, YOU NEED TO REVIEW THE PUNCTUATION RULES FOR TITLES:**

**TITLES OF SHORT WORKS** (titles of short stories, magazine and newspaper articles, chapters in a book, short poems, etc.) are placed in quotation marks.

**TITLES OF LONG WORKS** (titles of novels, movies, magazines, newspapers, etc.) are underlined (or put in italics).

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas! Fix anything else that needs fixing! THIS IS HARD!**

- ex. 1 Jay Leno said "I'm amazing."
- ex. 2 "I'm more amazing" said David Letterman.
- ex. 3 "Do another three beam routines, Jill" said Wally.
- ex. 4 Wally said that Jill should do another routine.

**WARNING! Be careful on the next ones! They're tricky! You may have to add question or exclamation marks or delete them or add other commas (because of other rules that apply to the sentence) or even change double quotes to singles, etc!**

- ex. 5 What sort of person would paint a picture like this I asked.
- ex. 6 If you want to read a good story Wally said be sure to read The Scarlet Ibis  
*HINT! Wally is talking about a short story. Make sure you place the period correctly.*
- ex. 7 "Have you read The Tell-Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe, Melissa?" asked the teacher.  
*HINT! The teacher is asking about a short story.*
- ex. 8 The teacher asked "Have you read Poe's 'The Tell-Tale Heart  
*HINT! The teacher is asking about a short story. Make sure you also place the question mark in relation to the quotation marks correctly.*
- ex. 9 I liked the more traditional 1969 movie version of Romeo and Juliet best" remarked Peter.  
*HINT! Peter is talking about a movie.*
- ex. 10 Did you like "The Scarlet Ibis" better than "Most Dangerous Game" asked Matilda.  
*HINT! Matilda is talking about two short stories.*
- ex. 10 Did you like What's Love Got to Do With It asked Diana.  
*HINT! Diana is talking about a song title. NOTE! There is a problem with a title having a question in it and that being embedded in a question.*

**REMEMBER THIS: STRONGER MARKS OF PUNCTUATION (LIKE PERIODS AND QUESTION MARKS) ALWAYS SUPERSEDE WEAKER MARKS OF PUNCTUATION (LIKE COMMAS).**

**IF THERE SHOULD BE TWO OF THE SAME PUNCTUATION MARK NEEDED, THE ONE CLOSEST TO THE SENTENCES ALWAYS SUPERSEDES THE OTHER!**

Now turn to the EWS text and do exercise 5 from p. 556. Do this exercise below or on your own notebook paper. It's worth 5 points. Do not skip over it!

**EXERCISE 5, p. 556**

**RULE #8 --> D/A (dates & addresses) RULE**

(see EWS p.557)

**Rule 8a. Use a comma to separate parts of geographical names and to separate the name of a street, city, and state in an address.**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 Mary Ann was born in Bloomington Minnesota.

ex. 2 I used to live at 3319 Simpson Street Evanston Illinois.

**WEIRD NOTE: A comma IS used to separate the last part of a geographical name or address from the rest of the sentence!  
Example: We lived in Brown Deer, Wisconsin, for two years.**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 Have you really lived in Bloomington Minnesota for seven years?

ex. 2 Elsie has lived at 3492 Biscayne Boulevard Miami Florida for more than fifty years.

**RULE 8.b. (dates) Use a comma to separate the day of the week, the day of the month, and the year in a date.**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 Carina was born on March 4 1992.

ex. 2 We were married on Saturday August 5 1989.

**NOTE: It is optional to put a comma between the month and year when there is no actual date.**

**Example: I think the Halloween blizzard was in October 1991.**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 We first went to Disneyland in May 1994.

ex. 2 Our class will graduate in June 2012.

**NOTE: A comma IS used to separate the date from the rest of the sentence!**

**Example:**

**She left for Sweden on June 10, 2002, and never came back!**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 They got married on February 14 1995 in an outdoor ceremony on the beach.

ex. 2. I hope to leave for Cancun on Thursday April 7 to avoid the spring break crowd.

ex. 3. Scott was born on Saturday August 17 1956 at 5:55 p.m.

**RULE #9 --> TITLE RULE**

**(see EWS p. 557)**

**Use a comma to separate a person's name (or a company's name) from the degree, title, or affiliation which follows it.**

**Example: Our pediatrician is Tim Lawson, M.D.**

**If the affiliation comes in the middle of the sentence, put commas before and after it.**

**Example: Tim Lawson, M.D., is a pediatrician.**

**A comma is also used to separate the degree, title, or affiliation from the rest of the sentence.**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

- ex. 1 In his practice, my father is referred to as David Carson M.D.
- ex. 2 We bought these lamps from Lightoleer Inc. in New York last fall.
- ex. 3 Dan Dowd USAF is an expert computer analyst.
- ex. 4 Henry Marquard Jr. will be giving the commencement speech.
- ex. 5 I called Heidi Schwitzer Ph.D. for advice.
- ex. 6 Wendy is engaged to marry Mr. Peter Pan Sr.
- ex. 7 Private Gilligan Islander USMC was marooned for ten years before being rescued.
- ex. 8 Sully worked for a company called Monsters Inc. in the movie Monsters Inc.

**WHY DO WE NEED COMMAS?**

You'll see when you edit the "Anybody for Eelpout" story. Apply all of the rules you've learned so far by putting in the commas in the story.

**USE A COLORED PEN. THIS IS REQUIRED FOR CREDIT! MAKE THE COMMAS VERY BOLD! THIS PART OF THE PAGE IS WORTH 5 POINTS ALL BY ITSELF.**

**ANYBODY FOR EELPOUT?**

- 1 Bethany Ricky Brianne Beth Elmer and Tyler were going eelpout fishing. Before going  
2 Bethany had to stop at the grocery store to buy ice cream fruit juice butter milk and  
3 kumquats. Ricky went along but found that on the floor below the store sold sporting goods.  
4 He ran down there and asked Mr. Schauer Do you have any eelpout hooks? However he  
5 answered the question Rick Schauer knew he was going to be laughed at. Just then Ricky  
6 saw his aunt Rapunzel Running come into the store. She was exhausted for the box she was  
7 carrying was extremely heavy. It was full of fresh fat cat fish. Suddenly in the room above  
8 water started to rain down. The store was on fire! As the firefighters approached Ricky  
9 raced for the door. Long after firefighters arrived to put out the blaze smoke was still  
10 pouring out of the building. Near the fire hoses filled the streets like giant eelpout. By the  
11 way the fire chief was screaming everyone could tell that the fire was out of control. By the  
12 time the fire was put out Ricky and Bethany had missed the fishing trip but they were able  
13 to sit down for a nice meal of smoked cat fish. After they had eaten the dog enjoyed the  
14 scraps.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hr. \_\_\_\_ Due date \_\_\_\_\_

**ONLY TWO MORE RULES TO GO!**

Read these last rules on pp. 558-top 1/2 of p. 559 and p. 560 in the EWS grammar book. These are perhaps the most difficult of the rules!

\_\_\_\_\_/35

See EWS pp. 558-top 1/2 of p. 559 and p. 560.

rules 10-11

(SKIP THE RULE ON THE BOTTOM 1/2 of p. 559 FOR RIGHT NOW.)

**RULE #10 --> NONESSENTIALS (NONESS)**

Use a pair of commas to enclose **NONESSENTIAL** (also called nonrestrictive) words, phrases, clauses.

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*"nonessential" means that this information is NOT crucial to understand the main idea of the sentence*

**Examples:**

a.) *Kristin Warren, who lives next door to me, won a scholarship to Stanford University.*

b.) *Wrigley Field is located in Chicago, which is known as the "Windy City."*

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 1 The Vikings by the way are awesome this season.

ex. 2 The Timberwolves however finished in the bottom of the heap.

ex. 3 Mike Grant for example has been one of the instrumental reasons the team has done so well.

ex. 4 The Guthrie Theatre I think is one of the reasons why actors come to Minneapolis.

ex. 5 My gradepoint average which is actually better than my brother's was better last term.

ex. 6 Shel Silverstein who played guitar and was an avid cartoonist wrote The Giving Tree.

\_\_\_\_\_/5

**NOTE: Place ONE comma before a nonessential phrase or clause that appears at the end of a sentence.**

**More practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

ex. 7 For the Homecoming Dance we should book a band like The Who for example.

ex. 8 Our biggest challenge lies in the cost of paying such a band however.

ex. 9 "All Around the Watchtower" was one of his greatest hits I think.

ex. 10 Mick Jagger is still equally followed by grandparents and teenagers too.

**An ESSENTIAL (or RESTRICTIVE) PHRASE OR CLAUSE is one that can't be left out without changing the meaning of the sentence.**

*Examples:*

a.) *Gymnasts planning to compete this Friday must attend practice on Thursday.*

b.) *A novel written by Charles Dickens was quoted in her graduation speech.*

c.) *All students who parked in the Community Center lot will have to move their cars.*

d.) *Media Center materials that are lost or damaged must be paid for by Friday.*

**PRACTICE TIME!**

In one of the two sentences, the phrase "located behind the main gym" is essential. In the other sentence, it is nonessential (and therefore needs 2 commas)? Put the commas in the appropriate sentence.

ex. 1 The gymnastics gym located behind the main gym was built in 1991.

ex. 2 We are practicing in the gym located behind the main gym on Friday.

**NOW, EXPLAIN YOUR REASONING FOR PLACING THE COMMAS WHERE YOU DID:**

## “WHICH” vs. “THAT”?

Deciding whether to use the word "which" or "that" can be tricky. If you can drop the phrase or clause and not lose the point of the sentence, use "which." If you can't, use "that."

Consider these two sentences:

Sentence A: *Buster's bulldog, which had one white ear, won first prize.*

Sentence B: *The dog that won first prize was Buster's bulldog.*

In sentence A, the "which had one white ear" is disposable or nonessential to the writer's purpose. But in sentence B, "that won first prize" is essential and, therefore, has no commas surrounding it. The sentence misses the point without "that won first prize."

Here's a silly little ditty to help you remember the difference between using commas with "which" or "that":

*“Commas, which cut out the fat, go with **WHICH** but  
never with **THAT!**”*

Some clauses and phrases may be either **ESSENTIAL** or **NONESSENTIAL**. The presence or absence of commas tells the reader how the clause or phrase relates to the main idea of the sentence.

*Examples:*

a.) *Eric's sister, who lives in Arizona, sent him a sweatshirt.* (Eric has only one sister. She sent the sweatshirt.) **NONESSENTIAL CLAUSE**

b.) *Eric's sister who lives in Arizona sent him a sweatshirt.* (Eric has more than one sister. The one in Arizona, not in Illinois, sent him the sweatshirt.)  
**ESSENTIAL CLAUSE**

c.) *My former Gustavus roommate, now living in Northbrook, visited me last week.* (I have only had one Gustavus roommate. That person visited me last week.)  
**NONESSENTIAL CLAUSE**

d.) *My former Gustavus roommate now living in Northbrook visited me last week.* (I have had more than one roommate at Gustavus. The one who lives in Northbrook, not in Red Wing, visited me last week.)  
**NONESSENTIAL CLAUSE**

**More practice time! Fill in the missing commas (if needed)!**

- ex. 1 The stores that became the most popular at the Mall of America were designed by E.A. Moran.
- ex. 2 E.A. Moran who grew up in Oak Park let her own children name her stores.
- ex. 3 They got their ideas for Moran's store names while playing make-believe games.
- ex. 4 The first Wet Seal store that Moran developed was in Chicago.
- ex. 5 Moran who noticed that young girls wanted similar stores next developed Zutopia.
- ex. 6 Zutopia and Wet Seal which cater to a different crowd than Hot Topics are Moran's favorites too. (NOTE: You need to add three commas in this sentence!)
- ex. 7 Here's an interesting example. Look at several different ways you could place commas in this sentence. Note that the placement of the commas may completely alter what the sentence is saying. Try two different ways and explain the different meanings as a result of the comma placement.

**Sentence A: Woman without her man is nothing.**

*Explain what your comma placement in sentence A above does to the meaning of the sentence:*

**Sentence B: Woman without her man is nothing.**

*Explain what your comma placement in sentence B above does to the meaning of the sentence:*

NOW TURN TO THAT BOTTOM HALF OF p. 559 THAT YOU SKIPPED TO DO RULE #11.  
Read the last rule on the bottom of p. 559 in the EWS grammar book.

## **RULE #11 APPOSITIVES (APP)**

*(See EWS bottom of p. 559)*

### **Use of pair of commas to enclose an APPOSITIVE.**

- *an appositive is a very special type of “nonessential”*
- *an appositive is a phrase which renames the noun which directly precedes it*
- *an appositive is a noun or a pronoun that follows another noun or pronoun to identify or explain it.*

*Examples:*

a.) *Oprah Winfrey, a talk show host in Chicago, is starring in a sequel.*

b.) *Neil Armstrong, the first person to walk on the moon, took his first historic step on July 20, 1969.*

**NOTE:** *Sometimes an appositive is used to specify a particular person, place, object, or idea. Such an appositive is called a restrictive appositive.*

*Examples:*

a.) *My brother Jeff helped me. (The writer has more than one brother. The appositive “Jeff” specifies which brother—Jeff, not Glenn.)*

b.) *Have you ever seen the movie Home Alone? (The appositive Home Alone specifies the particular movie.)*

**NOTE:**

• *Use a comma (or a pair of commas if the appositive comes in the middle of the sentence) to separate appositives from the rest of the sentence.*

*{Jim Steeger, a friend of mine, volunteers whenever he is in town.}*

**NOTE: PLACE ONE COMMA BEFORE AN APPOSITIVE THAT APPEARS AT THE END OF A SENTENCE!**

**Practice time! Fill in the missing commas!**

- ex. 1 Mr. Ed a weird horse with a TV series named after him spoke two languages.
- ex. 2 Bryan and Chris two budding actors in my English class are both up for the romantic lead in the school play.
- ex. 3 He played for the Bulls the only professional basketball team in Chicago for seven seasons.
- ex. 4 He played for seven seasons for the Bulls the only professional basketball team in Chicago.
- ex. 5 I went to Gustavus one of the most reputable colleges in Minnesota.
- ex. 6 The movie was about George Foreman a boxer with an incredible record.
- ex. 7 Shakespeare's play Romeo and Juliet is being performed by the Guthrie this season.
- ex. 8 Romeo and Juliet a play about two star-crossed lovers was written in 1594.
- ex. 9 A gymnast Traci Anonsen became the first Athena award-winner at EPHS.
- ex. 10 The class of 1987 one of the finest classes to graduate from EPHS is having a reunion.

**Now, practice the NONESS Rule and the APP rule by putting the commas in the sentences AND telling which rule governs why and where the comma should be.**

**RULE**

Example:        noness    *I haven't, to tell you the truth, had much time.*

Noness

or APP?    Put the commas in, if necessary!

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. My favorite bands Def Leppard and Led Zeppelin are playing at First Avenue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Game seven if necessary will be played at Wrigley Field.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Justin Timberlake the only rock star who applied has been chosen Mr. EPHS.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Frank Viola a former Twins pitcher is now coaching high school baseball teams.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Mr. Organ who used to teach at CMS is now teaching English 9 at the high school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Ms. Willey a former CMS English teacher is now at EPHS too.
- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Only the boy who caught the foul ball will get to go out to dinner with Frank Thomas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The Simpsons on the other hand is just as popular as ever.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Garfield that much-too-smart cat really appeals more to adults than children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. I prefer the David Letterman Show which I often watch during the week to CNN.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The talk-show host that I prefer to watch every night is Jay Leno.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Mr. Holm and Ms. Ruce two English teachers at EPHS were hired way back in 1977.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Our longest journey together to be certain came after the Maycomb pageant.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The character Atticus was my personal favorite in To Kill A Mockingbird.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Eden Prairie High School the largest school in the state was featured in USA Today.

Now turn to the EWS text and do exercise 7 from p. 560-561. Do this exercise below or on your own notebook paper. It's worth 5 points. Do not skip over it!

<b>EXERCISE 7, p. 560-561</b>
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