

Name _____ Date _____

Commas – Exercise 4

This handout accompanies Exercise 4 of *Grammar Bytes!* Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

Directions: Read the sentences below. If you believe a comma belongs in a box, then add a comma. If you believe no punctuation is necessary, put an **X** in the box.

1. Chad hopes to play professional football in the future so he regularly works out at the gym where he lifts weights, runs laps, drinks vitamin-enriched smoothies and ogles pretty girls as he gets strong and fast for tryouts.
2. "Quickly Annabelle put your notes away " warned Ms. Simmons as she passed out the quiz. Annabelle did as she was asked for she had all of the comma rules written on her wrists.
3. On the way to American Lit Drew saw Marc the most handsome man in calculus so she risked missing the lecture to chat with him in the cafeteria.
4. Whenever Maria needs to study she sits in the garage. She cannot study in the house because her children watch television with the volume on high. In addition the phone rings constantly with new juicy gossip from her sisters.
5. "Well done " said Professor Bekas who had just finished grading Samilia's comma quiz. With the extra credit points that Samilia had earned in class she scored a 117.
6. Perched on the seats like human passengers seven fat sheep accompanied a farmer to market. Joe sitting across the aisle wished that he had biked to downtown Manila instead of riding the overcrowded smelly bus.
7. To get an A on his biology quiz Francisco drew and labeled frog parts on his wrist so that he could surreptitiously check his answers when Dr. Keiper wasn't looking.

8. Because Sarah has chemistry at the other end of campus □ she must run □ to her 10 a.m. class □ ignoring all of her friends □ who try to greet her □ on the way.
9. My friend Harry □ who lives alone □ only goes food shopping □ if a hurricane is about to hit the area □ or if he's down to using dish soap □ as shampoo.
10. Whenever Maria is housecleaning □ she tunes the radio to her favorite salsa station □ sings □ and dances □ while she dusts □ and vacuums.
11. Laverne knows □ that she is in big trouble □ because she has turned in neither of her essays for Mr. Beane □ who has no patience for late work □ excuses □ or apologies.
12. To get on Mrs. Markham's good side □ Jason brought his teacher her favorite dish □ delicious □ chocolate-broccoli muffins □ with green □ cream cheese frosting.
13. On a dare □ Michael spent the night □ in the Finklestein's abandoned house □ which has inspired stories of ghosts □ who will suck out a person's eyes □ and eat them like grapes.
14. Oreo □ my black and white basenji puppy □ loves to chase the cat □ around the house □ and lick dry the legs of anyone □ stepping out of the shower.
15. Because Gloria is such a picky housekeeper □ she inspects any dishwashing that her roommate □ Delores does □ checking, for example □ that all the lipstick has been removed from the rims of cups □ and glasses.
16. Ignoring his burning tongue and fingers □ Frankie sipped the steaming □ sugar-loaded coffee □ as he tried to warm up □ after four hours of snow skiing □ in subzero weather.
17. Dustin loves internet auctions □ so he spends hours on eBay □ where he bids on comic books □ antique milk bottles □ and unicorn figurines □ to add to his collections.
18. Lying on the coffee table were Casey's school books □ the ones he needed to complete his homework. Unfortunately □ the TV remote □ also □ lay beside them □ so Casey spent the evening channel surfing instead of preparing for his Tuesday classes.

19. Nancy discarded one dress after another □ as she prepared for her first date with Ray. Across town □ Ray threw on a wrinkled □ dirty T-shirt □ and old jeans □ completely unconcerned about the first impression he would make.
20. Baking in the hot sun □ Rachel swatted biting mosquitoes □ wiped sweat from her face □ and rubbed her sore arms □ as she cleared the overgrown □ thorny bushes along the fence line.

