

Name: _____

Date: _____

8th grade Writing/ Mr. G.

Writing is Jawsome!



Cruella DeVil, the Comma Kidnapper

Cruella DeVil, the comma kidnapper, has always had a thing for spots. Why just the other day she was laughing about her diabolical plot to make a spotted fur coat from leopards, cheetahs, and Dalmatians. Lately, it seems she's taken her obsession with spots to a whole new level, snatching commas, too. To stop this villain we must put the commas back in the right place and restore peace to the Grammatical Kingdom.

Rule 1: Use commas to separate three or more words, phrases, or clauses.

Examples:

Phrases: This morning Cruella woke up, combed her hair, brushed her teeth, and called her fur maker.

Write an example of your own:

Clauses: In fact, the bus to Cruella's school was full of people who combed their hair, who brushed their teeth, and who called their fur makers.

Write an example of your own:

Incorrect: The park was filled with happy couples, noisy children and puppies.
(Leaving out the last comma makes it look like the puppies were noisy, too.)

Correct: The park was filled with happy couples, noisy children, and puppies. (The comma makes the sentence's meaning more clear.)

Correctly add commas to these sentences:

1. Cruella failed tests in mathematics reading and writing, but she aced her fashion exams.
2. Cruella's mother bought a couch a table and four chairs, all covered in fur, for their house.
3. Pongo Perdita and the puppies should fear Cruella Horace and Jasper.
4. Cruella likes to go to Paris for the fashion shows the couture fur coats and the car shows.
5. The rain splashed against the house onto the sidewalk and into the street.
6. Horace and Jasper grabbed a sack a bat and a crowbar before leaving to get the puppies.



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Directions: Put the stolen commas back in the right place(s) in the sentences:

1. Cave dwellers ate fruits nuts and berries.
2. People later learned to hunt kill and cook their food.
3. Their diets then included animals fish and birds.
4. A dictionary gives the meaning of a word how it is pronounced and how to spell it.
5. In 1901, a visitor to a foreign city would have experienced strange foods clothing and languages.
6. Imagine life without antibiotics to fight infectious diseases vaccinations to prevent diseases or scanners to diagnose our illnesses.
7. In the first 25 years after the space age began, people orbited Earth astronauts walked on the moon and space probes studied the solar system.
8. Do you think your interests hopes fears beliefs and desires are formed partly by television music or movies?

9. Write a sentence containing commas in a series.

10. Write a sentence containing commas in a series.



This is only the beginning!
Hahahahaha!



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Rule 2: Use commas to set off the year in a date if **three parts of date are given (month, day, year). Do not use commas if only two parts are given.**

Examples: Cruella left May 23, 1958, at night.

I know that July 1776 is an important date.

Write an example of your own:

Rule 3: If the sentence continues on after the date, you must use a comma to separate the date from the rest of the sentence.

Examples: On September 21, 2008, the New York Yankees played their last game at Yankee Stadium.

On Monday, September 22, the Autumn equinox occurred.

Write an example of your own:

Place commas where they are needed in these sentences:

1. Did you know that the puppies were kidnapped on July 17 1826?
2. On December 13 1831 Cruella was sent to jail.
3. Her trial started June 24 1830 in London England.
4. She was asked, "Where were you on the night of July 18 1826?"
5. On Friday July 20 1826 the accident happened, allowing police to arrest Cruella.
6. The puppies were returned to their owners later on the night of 20th.

If its criminal to be fabulous fashionable and fur-loving, I'm guilty!



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I must find this United Center! A bulls coat sounds utterly fabulous!



Directions: Put the stolen commas back in the right place(s) in the sentences:

1. The Civil War began on Friday April 12 1861.
2. The Battle of Gettysburg was fought on Wednesday July 1 1863.
3. Texas became a state on December 29 1845.
4. A huge earthquake struck San Francisco on April 18 1906.
5. One of America's biggest blizzards took place on January 27 1967.
6. On January 30 2006, I watched the Bulls win at the United Center.
7. Write a sentence with commas in a date used correctly.

8. Write a sentence with commas in a date used correctly.

9. Write a sentence with commas in a date used correctly.

10. Write a sentence with commas in a date used correctly.



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Rule 4: Use commas to separate geographical places, such as cities, counties, regions, states, and countries.

Example: Cruella lives in London, England.

Write an example of your own:

Place commas where they are needed.

1. Cruella has an aunt in Furryville Ohio.
2. Her fashion headquarters in located in Paris France.
3. Horace and Jasper Badun are from Salsberry England.
4. Hell Hall, Cruella's home, can be found off a dirt road in Lancaster England.
5. Lucky, one of the captured Dalmatians dreamed of moving to Orlando Florida.
6. Nanny was from Great Falls Montana and the butler was from Twin Falls Idaho.

I don't know about commas, but I have some spots you can borrow!



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Directions: Put the stolen commas back in the right place(s) in the sentences:

1. The Taj Mahal is in Agra India.
2. The Ship sailed from Southampton England.
3. Winters are warm in Miami Florida.
4. Yosemite National Park is a one hour drive from Fresno California.
5. I live in the city of New Haven New Haven County Connecticut.
6. New York New York is the largest city in America and a fashion capitol of the world.
7. Walt Disney World, Mr. G.'s favorite, is located in Orlando Florida.
8. Springfield Massachusetts, Springfield Ohio, and Springfield Maryland, have all claimed to be the original home of the Simpsons.
9. Write a sentence that uses commas with a city and country correctly.

10. Write a sentence that uses commas with a city and state correctly.

Look out New York New York! Here comes Cruella DeVil!



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Rule 5: Use commas when directly addressing someone.

Example: Can you come here, Horace?

“Anita, you fool! You’ll be sorry,” Cruella, the deranged woman, shrieked.

“Roger, she’s such a horrible woman,” Anita said collapsing into her husband’s arms.

Write an example of your own.

Place commas where they are needed:

1. “Jasper the job must be done tonight,” Cruella screamed on the telephone.
2. “Can you come here Pongo,” Roger called.
3. “Perdita they’re gone. It’s safe to come out now,” Pongo comforted.

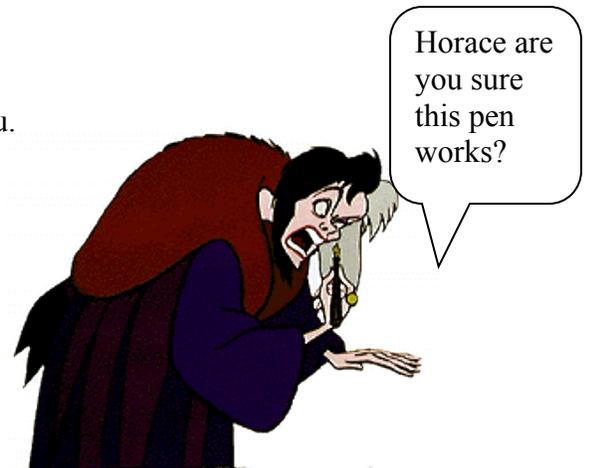
Rule 6: Use commas after *Yes* and *No*.

Example: Yes, I will come to your house this weekend.

Write an example of your own:

Place commas where they are needed:

1. “No I want the job done tonight!” Cruella commanded.
2. Yes we understand you are looking for the puppies.
3. No I don’t think there is any more you can do. Thank you.



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Directions: Put the stolen commas back in the right place(s) in the sentences:

1. Monica will you dance with me?
2. No I would not like to dance with you, but thank you for asking.
3. Jack are you okay? You seem like you're upset.
4. Yes I'm fine.
5. I need you to sit down Mikael.
6. Yes Mr. G.
7. Please take a seat Mr. Jacobson.
8. No I will not be told what to do.

9. Write a sentence that uses a comma when directly addressing an individual.

10. Write a sentence that uses commas after *Yes* or *No*.

