

Comma Detectives

Find the sentences with commas in the right places.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.2c "Use a comma to set off the words yes and no (e.g., Yes, thank you), to set off a tag question from the rest of the sentence (e.g., It's true, isn't it?), and to indicate direct address (e.g., Is that you, Steve?)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

COMMA IS RIGHT

This sentence uses a comma after yes or no, before a tag question, or with a name used to speak to someone.

Those lanterns are bright, aren't they?

COMMA NEEDED

This sentence needs a comma in one of those places.

Captain hand me the rope.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the tag that fits each sentence, then choose one sentence from each category and explain how its commas, or missing commas, helped you sort it.

1. Yes, I found the missing button.

CORRECT

REVISE

2. We should leave soon, shouldn't we?

CORRECT

REVISE

3. Please bring your helmet Riley.

CORRECT

REVISE

4. No, the creek is not frozen.

CORRECT

REVISE

5. Yes we painted the sign.

CORRECT

REVISE

6. That book was exciting wasn't it?

CORRECT

REVISE

7. Omar, stack the trays carefully.

CORRECT

REVISE

8. No, I did not hear the bell.

CORRECT

REVISE

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new sentence for CORRECT and one new sentence for REVISE.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with yes or no at the beginning and a person's name in the middle. Use every comma needed.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Yes, I found the missing button.	CORRECT	A comma correctly follows yes.
2	We should leave soon, shouldn't we?	CORRECT	A comma correctly sets off the tag question.
3	Please bring your helmet Riley.	REVISE	A comma is needed before Riley, who is being addressed.
4	No, the creek is not frozen.	CORRECT	A comma correctly follows no.
5	Yes we painted the sign.	REVISE	A comma is needed after yes.
6	That book was exciting wasn't it?	REVISE	A comma is needed before the tag question, wasn't it?
7	Omar, stack the trays carefully.	CORRECT	A comma correctly sets off Omar, who is being addressed.
8	No, I did not hear the bell.	CORRECT	A comma correctly follows no.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT:** We won the game, didn't we?
- **REVISE:** Aisha turn off the fan.

Challenge: Yes, Priya, I saved you a seat.

CORRECT: 1, 2, 4, 7, 8. **REVISE:** 3 needs a direct-address comma, 5 needs a comma after yes, and 6 needs a comma before the tag question.