Comma Connector Sort

Spot the comma before a joining word.

2.L.GC.1.25 "Mechanics: Use commas with coordinating conjunctions to join independent clauses. (Introduce)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

RIGHT COMMA

A comma comes before and, but, or, when the words join two complete sentences.

A comet flashed, and the owl watched.

NEEDS A FIX

Two complete sentences are joined by and, but, or, but the comma is missing.

A chef stirred soup and a timer rang.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle RIGHT or FIX for each sentence, then choose two item numbers and tell how you knew.

1. I packed my lunch, and I rode the bus. RIGHT FIX

2. The wind blew, but the flag stayed still. RIGHT FIX

3. Maya drew a map and her brother found the trail. RIGHT FIX

4. We can paint the sign, or we can use markers. RIGHT FIX

5. The bell rang but the class stayed quiet. RIGHT FIX

6. Dad washed the car and Mom swept the steps. RIGHT FIX

7. I fed the fish, and they splashed in the tank. RIGHT FIX

8. The sun set, but we kept playing. RIGHT FIX

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 RIGHT sentence and one new FIX sentence.

RIGHT _____

FIX _____

CHALLENGE

Add the missing comma: The train stopped and the doors opened.

ANSWER KEY

Comma Connector Sort

GRADE 2 · 2.L.GC.1.25

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	I packed my lunch, and I rode the bus.	**RIGHT**	A comma comes before and, which joins two complete sentences.
2	The wind blew, but the flag stayed still.	**RIGHT**	A comma comes before but, which joins two complete sentences.
3	Maya drew a map and her brother found the trail.	**FIX**	The comma is missing before and.
4	We can paint the sign, or we can use markers.	**RIGHT**	A comma comes before or, which joins two complete sentences.
5	The bell rang but the class stayed quiet.	**FIX**	The comma is missing before but.
6	Dad washed the car and Mom swept the steps.	**FIX**	The comma is missing before and.
7	I fed the fish, and they splashed in the tank.	**RIGHT**	A comma comes before and, which joins two complete sentences.
8	The sun set, but we kept playing.	**RIGHT**	A comma comes before but, which joins two complete sentences.

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)

- **RIGHT**: The moon rose, and the stars shone.
- **FIX**: The kite flew but the string broke.

Challenge: The train stopped, and the doors opened.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Part 3 answers will vary, but each RIGHT sentence should join two complete sentences with a comma.