Comma Spotters

Sort sentences by their comma use.

4.L.GC.1.36 "Mechanics: Use commas to indicate direct address and to set off the words yes and no. (Master)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMMAS CORRECT

Use this category when every needed comma is present. Put commas around a name or word used to speak directly to someone, and after yes or no at the start of a sentence.

Aunt Rosa, your sketch is amazing.

COMMAS NEEDED

Use this category when a sentence is missing a comma for direct address or for yes or no. Direct address can use a name or a word such as neighbor or friends.

Hold the lantern neighbor.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle CORRECT or FIX, then choose two sentence numbers and explain in writing why each belongs in its category.

1.	No, I cannot stay late.	CORRECT	FIX
2.	Maya please close the gate.	CORRECT	FIX
3.	Yes, Grandpa, the soup is ready.	CORRECT	FIX
4.	Will you help me, partner?	CORRECT	FIX
5.	No we did not see the comet.	CORRECT	FIX
6.	Captain, steer toward the island.	CORRECT	FIX
7.	I agree teammate.	CORRECT	FIX
8.	Yes we can begin now, friends.	CORRECT	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 sentence for CORRECT and one new sentence for FIX.

CORRECT _____

FIX _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-line dialogue that uses yes or no in one line and a name or word used to speak directly to someone in the other line. Use commas correctly.

ANSWER KEY # Comma Spotters

GRADE 4 · 4.L.GC.1.36

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	No, I cannot stay late.	**CORRECT**	A comma follows No at the beginning of the sentence.
2	Maya please close the gate.	**FIX**	A comma is needed after Maya because Maya is being spoken to directly.
3	Yes, Grandpa, the soup is ready.	**CORRECT**	A comma follows Yes, and commas set off Grandpa as direct address.
4	Will you help me, partner?	**CORRECT**	A comma sets off partner, the word used to speak directly to someone.
5	No we did not see the comet.	**FIX**	A comma is needed after No.
6	Captain, steer toward the island.	**CORRECT**	A comma follows Captain, which is direct address.
7	I agree teammate.	**FIX**	A comma is needed before teammate, which is direct address.
8	Yes we can begin now, friends.	**FIX**	A comma is needed after Yes. Friends is correctly set off as direct address.

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**: Uncle Ray, I found the keys.
- **FIX**: Please wait for me sister.

Challenge: Yes, Ms. Chen, I finished the puzzle. Thank you, Jordan.

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