

English punctuation rules



How and Why To Use Commas



1. Comma in simple sentence

- To separate 3 or more items in a series.

● *Example:*

“I saw milk, vegetables, and tuna in the fridge.”

1. Comma in simple sentence

- To set off words of direct address, words that name the person being spoken to.
- *Example:*
Sandra, show me your essay."

1. Comma in simple sentence

- After introductory words and phrases.

- *Examples:*

Moreover, I believe we should keep an eye on that situation.”

In case of an emergency, the fire crew will be called.”

1. Comma in simple sentence

- Before and after an appositive.

● *Example:*

“Our neighbors, the Smith, came for dinner last night.”

1. Comma in simple sentence

- After a participle phrase at the beginning of the sentence.

● *Example:*

“Walking home, I tried to decide what I was going to say.”

1. Comma in simple sentence

- In dates between the day of the month and the year.

● *Example:*

*“The postmark read September 10, 1998,
Chicago, Illinois.*

1. Comma in simple sentence

- In direct speech

- *Example:*

He asked, “Where did you go?”

2. Comma in compound sentences

- To separate independent clauses

- *Examples:*

“The sky was covered with clouds, a cold wind was blowing.”

“She nodded, but he sensed a trace of lingering anxiety.”

2. Comma in compound sentences

- After adverbial clauses when these come first in a sentence.

● *Example:*

"If you are ever in London," you should visit the Houses of Parliament."

You should visit the Houses of Parliament if you are ever in London.

2. Comma in compound sentences

- Subordinate clause (придаточное предложение) = Subject (подлежащее) / Predicate (сказуемое)

- *Example:*

“Where he found that bag _ is a mystery to me.”

2. Comma in compound sentences

- Never use a comma before **that**

- *Example:*

“He said _ that he would never start smoking again.”

2. Comma in compound sentences

- “My sister, who is from LA, came to my place.”
- Простое описательное предложение про сестру: «Моя сестра, живущая в Лос-Анджелесе, приехала ко мне. Мы понимаем, о какой сестре идёт речь.

2. Comma in compound sentences

- “My sister _ who is from LA _ came to my place.”
- Какая именно из сестёр приехала?:
«Моя сестра, та, что из Нью-Йорка,
приехала ко мне.»

- Well, now you know all the rules ;)
- Thank you for attention!