



Exclamation Points

Exclamation points are used to show strong emotion.

Directions: Decide if the following sentences should end with an exclamation point.

Example: I am so happy! We won the game → ☒ Yes ☐ No

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Can we go now | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 2) Ouch! I hurt my knee | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 3) What time is it | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 4) I am tired | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 5) Where are we going | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 6) I am so excited because today is my birthday | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 7) Good morning everyone. | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 8) Does anyone know his name | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 9) Hooray! We are finally free | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 10) "Hey!" the man yelled, "Please help me" | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 11) Do you know how to get to 12 street | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 12) My car is old | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 13) I am sleepy | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 14) The airplane is going to crash | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 15) I just won the lottery | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |



Periods

The period has three primary functions:

- 1) To show that a sentence has ended
 - 2) To show that an abbreviation has ended
 - 3) As a decimal point
-

1) To show that a sentence has ended

Example: We are going to the mall today.

Directions: Use periods to show that the following *sentences have ended*.

- 1) I must get a new car soon
- 2) If we don't get some milk, we will not be able to eat our cereal

2) To show that an abbreviation has ended

Example: We are shopping on State St. today.

Note: use only one period to end a sentence.

Directions: Use periods to show that the following *abbreviations have ended*.

- 1) I want to move to Boulder, CO when I get older.
- 2) Today is Oct 6th 2007.

3) As a decimal point

Example: The shoes cost \$42.99.

Directions: Use periods as a *decimal point* in the following sentences.

- 1) The dentist charges \$6200 for an office visit.
- 2) The baby weighed 72 pounds at birth.



Question Marks

Question Marks are used to end a question.

Note: some sentences may seem like they are questions when they are actually statements that appear like questions.

Directions: Decide if the following sentences should end with a question mark.

Example: Are we going to the mall today

→ ☒ Yes ☐ No

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) What time is it | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 2) Do you want another piece of cake | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 3) Juan asked if we are going to the mall today | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 4) It is 5:00 | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 5) Maybe class ends at 3:30 | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 6) I am not sure if we need more milk | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 7) Did the man find his dog | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 8) The turkey is done cooking | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 9) I wonder what time it is | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 10) Was the movie scary | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 11) It might be sunny tomorrow | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 12) Is it 7:00 | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 13) You love painting | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 14) Was the trip long | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| 15) It is possible that we will arrive early | → | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |



Beginning Punctuation Quiz

Directions: Decide if the following sentences should end with a period, question mark, or exclamation point.

Example: I am so excited right now

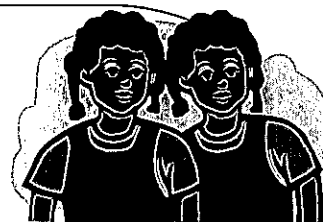
→ . ? **!**

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1) I feel good today | → . ? ! |
| 2) Hey! Can you hear me | → . ? ! |
| 3) I like oranges | → . ? ! |
| 4) What time did you go to the movie last night | → . ? ! |
| 5) Where are we going | → . ? ! |
| 6) I wonder how old he is | → . ? ! |
| 7) Hey everybody, look at me | → . ? ! |
| 8) Doesn't anybody want to come with me | → . ? ! |
| 9) I think we can go now | → . ? ! |
| 10) I am so excited! Our team scored a point | → . ? ! |
| 11) When are you going to take out the trash | → . ? ! |
| 12) Hello, how are you | → . ? ! |
| 13) Didn't you go to the store yesterday | → . ? ! |
| 14) I think it's supposed to snow tomorrow | → . ? ! |
| 15) Yay! I am finished with the quiz | → . ? ! |

Name: _____

Identify the Synonym

Synonyms are two words that mean the same or nearly the same as each other. Choose the correct synonym for each underlined word below by circling your choice.



1. The girls were surprised when they saw the beautiful flowers the delivery boy brought.
A) frustrating B) pretty C) fast D) orange
2. Watching the movie with all of my friends from school was fun, but it was too long.
A) sticky B) lengthy C) silly D) short
3. Jennifer's roasted hot dog was ruined when it fell into the fire.
A) flames B) water C) ground D) refrigerator
4. The librarian asked the children to be silent because everyone was trying to study.
A) noisy B) boring C) quiet D) early
5. My grandpa made the new dollhouse, complete with miniature furniture for every room.
A) pretty B) tiny C) fresh D) tall
6. The boys on the soccer team were hungry after the game, so they went to eat pizza.
A) bumpy B) happy C) starving D) full
7. Mrs. Blackwell assigned a difficult project for the students to complete during their vacation.
A) free B) easy C) caring D) hard
8. The college professor was wise and gave the new students a lot of good advice.
A) intelligent B) funny C) ordinary D) ugly
9. Samantha's great-grandpa is very old.
A) friendly B) crazy C) charming D) elderly
10. During physical education, the children had to jump as far as they could.
A) juggle B) leap C) swim D) run

Ending Punctuation

Name: _____

The ending punctuation you choose to put on a sentence depends on the type of sentence that it is. There are three major kinds of sentences.

1. **Declarative** sentences are making a statement, perhaps to provide information.
A **period (.)** is the proper ending punctuation for a declarative sentence.
2. **Interrogative** sentences are asking a question.
A **question mark (?)** is the proper ending punctuation for an interrogative sentence.
3. **Exclamatory** sentences express emotion or excitement.
An **exclamation point (!)** is the proper ending punctuation for an exclamatory sentence.



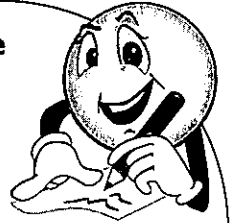
- **Decide whether the sentence is making a statement, asking a question, or expressing emotion.**
- **Add the proper punctuation to the end.**

1. There are 33 students in my class _____
2. What time does the class start _____
3. The house is on fire _____
4. The shop on the corner sells notebooks and paper _____
5. Each class will have an assigned time to go to the library _____
6. My dad said he is going to double my allowance _____
7. Why aren't you coming on the field trip _____
8. How long will it take us to get to the museum _____
9. I returned the books to the bookcase _____
10. Where is the school office _____
11. What is your favorite sport _____
12. James scored the winning touchdown _____
13. Mom is making my favorite meal for dinner _____
14. Is Emily your best friend _____

Name: _____

Add Interest With Synonyms

Synonyms are two words that mean the same or nearly the same as each other. You can use synonyms for over-used or "tired" words in your writing to add interest to what you are saying.



Read the paragraph below. The numbered words in bold print are over-used words. Think of a synonym you could use to replace each tired word to add interest. Write the word on the corresponding numbered line. The first one has been done for you.

Jennifer and Laritza had a **nice**¹ day at school. In the morning, they listened as their teacher read a **nice**² story. The work was **hard**³ during math because they had just started learning a new skill. The teacher was **happy**⁴ with their progress. It was a **nice**⁵ day, so they were able to play soccer outside for P.E. The class was **happy**⁶ when the teacher said they would have a party that afternoon. Jennifer was excited about the party, but Laritza did not want to go to the party. She was **tired**⁷ because she did not sleep well the night before. She stayed in at recess and made a **pretty**⁸ sign while the other children played outside. She used **big**⁹ letters to write the word "celebrate." She even drew butterflies with **small**¹⁰ dots on their wings. Jennifer came back a few minutes later to help her. Together, they colored the pictures and letters that Laritza had drawn. When the other students came back in after recess, they all agreed it was a **nice**¹¹ sign. The teacher put it up on the board in the front of the room. Then she passed out some **good**¹² cookies. She told them they were celebrating because they did a **good**¹³ job on their recent test. She was **happy**¹⁴ they did well.

1. pleasant

8. _____

2. _____

9. _____

3. _____

10. _____

4. _____

11. _____

5. _____

12. _____

6. _____

13. _____

7. _____

14. _____

Name: _____

“ ”
,

Commas and Quotation Marks: Inside or Outside?

Commas always go inside quotation marks in the United States when the comma follows the text in quotation marks.

Example: “We can ask my mother,” said Elizabeth, “she’ll understand.”

Note the comma after Elizabeth. It is outside the quotation mark because it does not follow any quoted text.

Rewrite each sentence below, adding commas in the correct places.

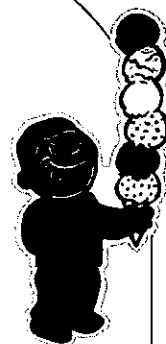
1. “You are looking in the wrong direction” said the detective.
2. His favorite old television shows are “I Love Lucy” “Batman” and “Bonanza.”
3. “If you want to go outside” said Mrs. Clark “you must wear your raincoats.”
4. “Yes, it’s an important clue” replied Vance “but more important is the time of the call.”
5. “Rarely” the doctor observed “has anyone survived such a fall.”
6. At camp we sang “Daisy, Daisy” “Oh! Susannah” and “Skip to My Lou.”

Improve Your Writing With Similes

Name: _____

Figurative language includes special forms that writers use to help readers make a strong connection to their words. A **simile** is one kind of figurative language. It makes a comparison of two unlike things using the words "like" or "as".

Similes can make your writing more interesting. Read the sentences below. Replace the simple adjective in each sentence with a simile to make a stronger impression.



1. The man was sad.
 The man was as sad as a little boy who had just dropped his ice cream cone.
2. Veronica was sleepy.

3. The homework was difficult.

4. Our kitchen was messy.

5. Raul's burrito was spicy.

6. Eva's Internet connection was fast.

7. The baby giraffe's neck was long.

8. The movie was exciting!

9. The umbrella is wet.

10. Jeremy and Mike are brave.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Conjunctions Worksheet (Circling Part 1)

Conjunctions are words that join two or more words, phrases or clauses. Example; for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.

Directions: Read each sentence below. Circle the conjunction that connects the two phrases.

Example A: Stephen loves to play basketball, for he is very tall.

Answer: for

1. Sharon loves to go on roller coasters, yet she has a fear of heights.
2. Donald ate all his dinner, so he was able to have dessert.
3. Racoons must push lids off of garbage cans, or else they will go hungry.
4. Darren loves to play football, but he does not like to be the running back.
6. May loves to cook, for she has a special talent for it.
7. David has to wake up early, so he can climb the mountain.
8. Sophia ate a lot, yet she is still hungry.
9. The man is fast, but the woman is faster.
10. Derek went to the mall, so he could shop.
11. May loves to cook, but she needs a new stove.
12. Stephen loves to play baseball, for he is good at it.
13. We are going to the mall, once my friends get here.
14. I'm having a great time, while you are at home watching television.
15. We're going to win the championship, since you guys are not prepared.

Name: _____

Adventures With Alliteration!

Adjectives

PART

1

Write a noun for each adjective below that creates an alliterative phrase.

EXAMPLE



1) purple _____

6) tired _____

2) soft _____

7) awesome _____

3) happy _____

8) wonderful _____

4) gentle _____

9) circular _____

5) empty _____

10) ugly _____

PART

2

Write an alliterative phrase for each letter below.

1) B _____

3) K _____

5) Q _____

2) L _____

4) N _____

PART

3

Write a sentence using the phrases you made in Part 2. Use additional alliterations if you can.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

Name: _____

Connecting Run-on Sentences: Commas and Conjunctions

A run-on sentence is one where two independent clauses have been put together without the correct punctuation.

Example: The birds flew east the deer ran south.

The two independent clauses are *The birds flew east* and *the deer ran south*. However, there is no “glue” to hold the two clauses together, therefore, this is a run-on sentence.

One way to correct a run-on sentence is to add a comma and coordinating conjunction as the “glue” to hold the two clauses together. The coordinating conjunctions are *for*, *and*, *nor*, *but*, *or*, *yet*, and *so*.

Corrected sentence: The birds flew east, and the deer ran south.

Rewrite each run-on sentence below, adding coordinating conjunctions and commas in the correct places.

1. Bob played the guitar Suzy played the piano.
2. Many people came to the show no one seemed to like it.
3. The pioneers crossed the plains in covered wagons the travel time was long.
4. The car came to a quick stop in the driveway in the house the people screamed.
5. James can do the dishes he can take out the trash.

Name: _____

Writing with Personification

Personification is a figurative element that attributes human thoughts, actions, characteristics or emotions to something that is not human.

Example: The sad clouds were ready to spill their tears upon the funeral procession.
Clouds cannot be sad, nor do they have tears.

Part I. Write four verbs that humans do that may apply to:

A) a fire

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

B) a haunted house

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Part II. Write a paragraph personifying the object in each phrase below. Use the verbs you wrote above as a starting point. Add human emotions and characteristics, as well.

1) a fire

2) a haunted house

Name: _____

Commas with Complex Sentences: Case of the Missing Comma



A complex sentence has an independent clause and a dependent clause. They are put together in a sentence using a word called a subordinating conjunction. Examples of coordinating conjunctions are: because, how, which, while, after, though, unless, even though and until.



Example:

Jeff mowed the lawn because he wanted his allowance.

Jeff mowed the lawn is the independent clause. The dependent clause is *he wanted his allowance*. The subordinating conjunction is *because*. There is no comma between the two clauses because the subordinating conjunction separates them.

If the dependent clause is at the beginning of the sentence, a comma separates the dependent clause from the independent clause.

Although she orders pizza, Jeanette's favorite food is chicken.

Below are some complex sentences. Some of the dependent clauses are at the beginning; others are at the end. You are the comma detective! Rewrite the sentences and add the commas where they are needed.

1. They played checkers until it was time to go home.

2. Even though Lee prefers blue Charlotte picked yellow.

3. Since there was no school that day the children played in the snow.

4. We thought she was nice because she smiled a lot.

5. Mike ate his vegetables before he ate his dessert.

6. While the class took a test the teacher graded papers.

