

Study these rules,

1 Here's the Idea

Commas can make the meaning of sentences clearer by separating certain sentence elements. However, using too many commas can cause more confusion than leaving them out.

Commas in Series

- ▶ In a series of three or more items, use a comma after every item except the last one.

Bungee jumping has joined the ranks of surfboarding, skateboarding, and sky surfing as an extreme sport.

A person who wants to bungee jump can go to professional sites and jump from bridges, hot-air balloons, and tall buildings.

- ▶ Use commas after first, second, and so on when they introduce items in a series.

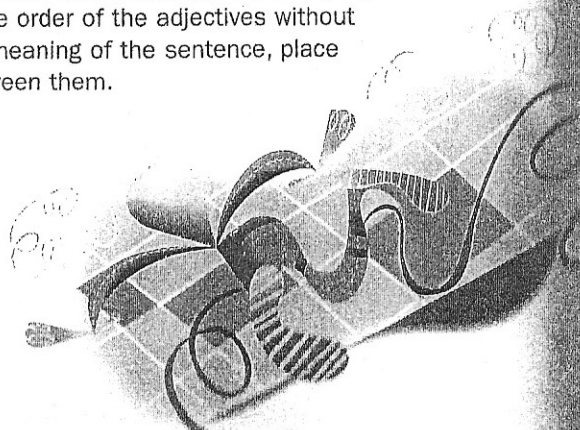
Participants are asked to follow three simple rules: first, secure the bungee cord for safety; second, do not attempt to hold on to anything; and third, have fun.

- ▶ Use commas between adjectives of equal rank that modify the same noun.

A young, adventurous man jumped off a 300-foot bridge.



To tell whether a series of adjectives requires a comma, place the word *and* between the adjectives. If the sentence still makes sense, replace *and* with a comma. Likewise, if you can change the order of the adjectives without changing the meaning of the sentence, place a comma between them.



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Do exercises on back side. (See back).

Commas with Introductory Elements

- ▶ Use a comma after an introductory word or a mild interjection such as *oh* or *well*.

Oh, bungee jumping is not for the faint-hearted.

However, if you are a thrill-seeker, then this is the perfect hobby.

- ▶ Use a comma after an introductory prepositional phrase that contains one or more other prepositional phrases.

At the beginning of the jump, a person feels a rush of emotions.

- ▶ Use a comma after an infinitive phrase, a participial phrase, or an adverb clause that begins a sentence. (where there is a pause)

Taking a deep breath, the jumper prepares for the dive.

ADVERB CLAUSE

When the jump is over, the exhilaration remains.

Commas with Interrupters

- ▶ Use commas to set off words that interrupt the flow of thought in a sentence.

Bungee jumping, by the way, can be done in groups.

A seven-person team, for example, has jumped in a specially designed basket.

Common Interrupters

however	I suppose	by the way	of course
therefore	moreover	in fact	furthermore
for example	I believe	after all	nevertheless

- ▶ Use commas to set off nouns of direct address. A noun of direct address names the person or people being spoken to. Nouns of direct address can be either proper nouns or common nouns, as these examples show.

David, do you know anyone who has gone bungee jumping?

If you want to learn more about bungee jumping, ladies and gentlemen, try a search on the Internet.

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Do exercises on back.