

# CHAPTER 24 Punctuation

## Commas in Compound Sentences

Use a comma before *and*, *but*, *or*, *nor*, *for*, and *yet* when they join independent clauses.

**EXERCISE** Decide where a comma is needed in each sentence. Write the word preceding the comma, the comma, and the coordinating conjunction on the line provided.

**EXAMPLE:** Jason followed all of the directions but the plant still refused to grow. \_\_\_\_\_ directions, but \_\_\_\_\_

1. The car stopped at the light and the children crossed the street. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The band began to play on time but the students were all late for the dance. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Will you help me clean up for the party or will I have to ask someone else to do it? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Michelle wanted to go to college but she hadn't taken enough courses in mathematics. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Bob wouldn't let anyone use his camera nor would he use anyone else's. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Dr. Ling had two emergencies this morning but she still managed to keep all her appointments. \_\_\_\_\_
7. The administration gave the students the day off and they all helped to clean up the campus. \_\_\_\_\_
8. She painted the walls and ceiling and he painted the trim and the inside of the closets. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Don't talk to the lifeguard or he will lose his concentration. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Betsy wanted to do well on the exam but she felt too sick to try. \_\_\_\_\_
11. No one wanted to referee the volleyball games for everyone wanted to participate as a player instead. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Henry danced all night and he still got up early to go to work. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Matilda enjoyed riding her horse and she spent hours grooming it every Sunday. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Jessica was considered the best artist in the senior class yet she had never taken any art courses. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Under no circumstances would he build a new fence nor would he repair the old one. \_\_\_\_\_
16. The tomato plants were nearly three feet high by July and the corn towered over them. \_\_\_\_\_
17. Don't drink the water and don't wander off on your own. \_\_\_\_\_
18. The class trip was a huge success and the party afterward was the perfect ending to the day. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved. This work is published under the name of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.



# CHAPTER 22 Punctuation

## Commas After Introductory Elements

Use a comma after words such as *well*, *yes*, *no*, and *why* when they begin a sentence. Use a comma after an introductory participial phrase and after an introductory adverb clause. Use a comma after a succession of three or more introductory prepositional phrases.

**EXERCISE** If a sentence below is punctuated correctly, write **C** on the line provided. If it is punctuated incorrectly, write **I** on the line, and insert commas where needed in the sentence.

**EXAMPLE:** Behaving like a spoiled child, he pouted and sulked.     I    

1. While the orchestra played the overture late arrivals hurried to their seats.
2. Yes, I will take the books back to the library.
3. Gritting her teeth, she exerted a final spurt of energy and crossed the finish line.
4. Well I certainly don't know where the stamps are.
5. No I didn't borrow the album.
6. Jogging along the street she met many people walking their dogs.
7. Whenever I practice the mandolin the neighbors like to listen.
8. Practicing on the tennis court, she became hot, tired, and thirsty.
9. While watching late movies she solved crossword puzzles or wrote letters.
10. Yes I will be going away to college in the fall.
11. Whenever I go to the bank the lines for check cashing are long and slow.
12. Well I studied as hard as I could.
13. No, I've decided to stay home.
14. Of the people in the back of the room only a few could see the demonstration clearly.
15. Running through the park he noticed many people playing ball.
16. While the teacher talked about the exam the whole class took notes.
17. Yes Sally is going to meet you after work.
18. While sunbathing at the beach, Sandra got quite a burn.
19. Leaving the party early Barbara rode her bike home.
20. Well I have to agree with John on that issue.