Name: Date: Score: / 8

Commas After Openers: Learn and Practice

Use commas after introductory words and names

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Introductory Commas

- Put a comma after an introductory word, phrase or clause, like Yes, Well, or After dinner.
- Use commas for a name you are talking to and before a short tag question.
- After dinner, we read a story.

1 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. After dinner we, read a story.
B. After dinner, we read a story.
C. After, dinner we read a story.
D. After dinner we read, a story.

2 Why do we put a comma after an introductory word?

A. to end the sentence B. to join two lists
C. to show a pause before the main idea
D. to show ownership

3 Which sentence needs a comma after the first word?

A. The hat fell off. B. I forgot my hat.
C. Oh I forgot my hat. D. My hat is blue.

4 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. When, the music stopped we froze.
B. When the music stopped we, froze.
C. When the music, stopped we froze.
D. When the music stopped, we froze.

5 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Yes I would like, some juice.
B. Yes, I would like some juice.
C. Yes I would, like some juice.
D. Yes I, would like some juice.

6 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Finally, the bus arrived.
B. Finally the, bus arrived.
C. Finally the bus, arrived.
D. Finally, the, bus arrived.

7 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Sam can, you help me?
B. Sam can you, help me?
C. Sam, can you help me?
D. Sam can you help, me?

8 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Well I think, it will rain.
B. Well I, think it will rain.
C. Well, I think it will rain.
D. Well I think it, will rain.

✏️ Explain it! In your own words, write the rule for commas after openers and one example.

ANSWER KEY

Commas After Openers: Learn and Practice (answers)

Use commas after introductory words and names

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. After dinner we, read a story.

B. After dinner, we read a story.

C. After, dinner we read a story.

D. After dinner we read, a story.

After dinner is an introductory phrase, so the comma goes right after it.

2 Why do we put a comma after an introductory word?

A. to end the sentence B. to join two lists

C. to show a pause before the main idea

D. to show ownership

The comma tells the reader to pause before the main part of the sentence.

3 Which sentence needs a comma after the first word?

A. The hat fell off. B. I forgot my hat.

C. Oh I forgot my hat. D. My hat is blue.

Oh is an introductory word, so it should be followed by a comma.

4 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. When, the music stopped we froze.

B. When the music stopped we, froze.

C. When the music, stopped we froze.

D. When the music stopped, we froze.

When the music stopped is an introductory clause. The comma goes after it.

5 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Yes I would like, some juice.

B. Yes, I would like some juice.

C. Yes I would, like some juice.

D. Yes I, would like some juice.

Yes is an introductory word, so a comma follows it.

6 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Finally, the bus arrived.

B. Finally the, bus arrived.

C. Finally the bus, arrived.

D. Finally, the, bus arrived.

Finally is an introductory word, so the comma comes right after it.

7 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Sam can, you help me?

B. Sam can you, help me?

C. Sam, can you help me?

D. Sam can you help, me?

We are talking to Sam, so a comma sets his name apart.

8 Which is punctuated correctly?

A. Well I think, it will rain.

B. Well I, think it will rain.

C. Well, I think it will rain.

D. Well I think it, will rain.

Well is an introductory word, so it is followed by a comma.