Comma Test

**Directions: Put commas where necessary. If correct write a C**

**Part One: Items in a series**

1. Bob Sean and Steven were the only ones who passed the math test.
2. I want to visit Japan England and France.
3. My chores tonight are to clean the dishes do the laundry and vacuum the bedroom.
4. When I looked outside, I saw Lou playing soccer Jay reading a book and Tina putting together a picnic.
5. When the play started, the orchestra began the doors closed and the audience silenced.
6. My favorite historical figures are Thomas Jefferson Harriet Tubman and Abraham Lincoln.
7. In order to win, he must run swiftly gracefully and boldly.

**Part Two: Adjectives before a noun**

1. The burnt stinky cookies had to be thrown out.
2. Did you read about Dean’s short and meaningful life?
3. John’s dedicated upbeat performance made the show entirely watchable.
4. The cold unrelenting wind blew down my garbage can.
5. Thank you for your helpful detailed report.
6. After a refreshing much needed break, Katie finished her ten page paper.
7. His elegant new red car got much attention at work.

**Part Three: Compound Sentences**

1. My sister just had a baby boy so she will be off work for a few months.
2. Mark and Kim were impressed with the performance but did not enjoy the lighting design.
3. I love crab but not shrimp.
4. You must turn in your homework tomorrow or you will receive a zero.
5. The water was hot yet she still tried to drink it.
6. I do not enjoy chemistry however I find it important to understand.
7. The storm was so bad that I could not go to work yet I still got a lot of work done.

**Part Four: Interrupters**

1. The books written by S.E. Hinton all contain young men living difficult lives.
2. Gene who works at the theme park was coming over today.
3. The Manhattan Project whose purpose was to create an atomic bomb was successful.
4. Mr. Garcia my old manager just won a big award for his charity work.
5. Soy sauce for instance would not make a good topping.
6. I did not understand how to fix the sink as I never learned so I hired a plumber.
7. My brother who was born in Germany just got a promotion at work.

**Part Five: Introductory Words/Phrases/Clauses**

1. No I will not support your cause!
2. In 1977 *Star Wars* was released.
3. When I got home I saw that my package had been delivered.
4. After looking through Netflix for ten minutes I decided to just put on my favorite show.
5. Well I think we should ask for help.
6. To keep your health up you should eat something from every major food group every day.
7. Since her father got sick she has not been able to make many meetings.

**Part Six: Various**

1. Nicole clean your room!
2. When I got home I saw the dog puked the mail came and that the crock pot had finished cooking dinner.
3. What a great firework display that was!
4. To prepare for her role as a lawyer the actress worked in a law firm for a month.
5. Joey get rid of that old moldy sandwich in your room!
6. “White Horse” which won Taylor Swift a Grammy is my favorite song of all time.
7. Alice decided she didn’t want to marry Jeff so she moved to Maine.
8. Generally speaking most people really enjoy going to Hawaii.
9. However my mom went and she got really sick.
10. The top three athletes in my class are Robert Marissa and John.
11. The depressing long boring novel is Ben’s favorite story of all time.
12. I didn’t understand statistics so I decided to change my major to communications.
13. I’m tired but not sleepy.
14. I hate going to the grocery store but I need groceries.
15. After all there are way too many people there.

Comma Test Answer Key

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1. My sister just had a baby boy, so she will be off work for a few months.
2. Mark and Kim were impressed with the performance but did not enjoy the lighting design. Correct
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**Part Four: Interrupters**

1. The books written by S.E. Hinton all contain young men living difficult lives. Correct
2. Gene Miller, who works at the theme park, was coming over today.
3. The Manhattan Project, whose purpose was to create an atomic bomb, was successful.
4. Mr. Garcia, my old manager, just won a big award for his charity work.
5. Soy sauce, for instance, would not make a good topping.
6. I did not understand how to fix the sink, as I never learned, so I hired a plumber.
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**Comma Help**

1. Items in a series
   1. Use commas to separate items in a series
      1. Always stop, look, and listen before crossing railroad tracks.
      2. We found seaweed in the water, on the sand, under the rocks, and even in our shoes.
      3. The lights dimmed, the curtain rose, and the orchestra began to play.
2. Adjectives before a noun
   1. Use commas to separate two or more adjectives before a noun
      1. Jack Russell terriers are small, energetic dogs.
      2. The hot, unrelenting wind blew across the desert.
3. Compound Sentences
   1. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction when it joins independent clauses
   2. Both need to be complete thoughts/sentences
      1. Look for: and, but, for, nor, or, so, or yet
         1. I enjoyed science, but math is my favorite class.
         2. The water was cold, yet it looked inviting
         3. We will not give up, nor will we fail
4. Interrupters
   1. Use commas to set off an expression that interrupts a sentence
      1. Mr. Smith, born in Kansas, moved to Florida when he was twelve.
      2. The homework, by the way, is worth twenty percent of your final grade.
   2. Use commas to set off nonessential phrases
      1. This information is just background, not needed to understand meaning
         1. The old dog, walking across the lawn, was going to the neighbor’s house.
         2. *To Kill a Mockingbird*, written by Harper Lee, won a Pulitzer Prize.
      2. Do not need commas for essential phrases
         1. Without this, sentence wouldn’t make sense
            1. The book written by John Green is my favorite.
            2. The farmer who grew corn had a good harvest.
   3. Use commas to set off words of direct address (name/group)
      1. Doug, go to your desk!
      2. Are you going the mall, Joe, or are you going to the gym?
   4. Use commas to set off parenthetical expressions
      1. This adds information or shows relationship (of course, I think, for example, etc)
         1. Sean, I think, lives in Iowa.
         2. In my opinion, chemistry is too hard.
         3. However, chemistry is necessary for us to understand our world.
5. Introductory Words/Phrases/Clauses
   1. Use commas to set off an introductory phrase/clause
      1. They are dependent (cannot be own sentence) and provide info or set the stage.
         1. In the dark attic, the girl's searched for the old photobook.
         2. In the morning, we will tour Washington DC.
         3. When December came, the snow came down.
         4. Since I got sick, I couldn’t see the movie.