

# HOW TO USE COMMAS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Using Commas After Introductions

### The Rule

Placing a comma after an **introductory clause** lets the reader know that the introduction has come to an end and the **main clause** is about to begin.

### Example

After the trip, we needed to unpack our luggage.  
OR  
We needed to unpack our luggage after the trip.

### Ask yourself...

Can the part of the sentence before the comma move to the end of the main clause and still make sense? If the answer is YES, you are dealing with an **introductory clause**.

### Practice

Add commas to the following sentences if they are needed. Not every sentence will need commas.

1. Because the game was so one-sided we left early.
2. Wading into the cool lake we found relief from the heat.
3. The alarm clock no longer worked after the power outage.
4. According to my dad our local football team is the best in the country.
5. If it is raining we will need to move the wedding indoors.
6. Even if you are afraid of flying you should embrace the opportunity to travel.
7. After the championship game the team went out for ice-cream.
8. Before the school year started I had to complete my summer homework.
9. We adopted a pet dog after moving out of the city.
10. When visiting a new country make sure you are familiar with the local customs.

Rearrange these sentences to create introductory clauses followed by commas.

The children were exhausted after a long day at summer camp.

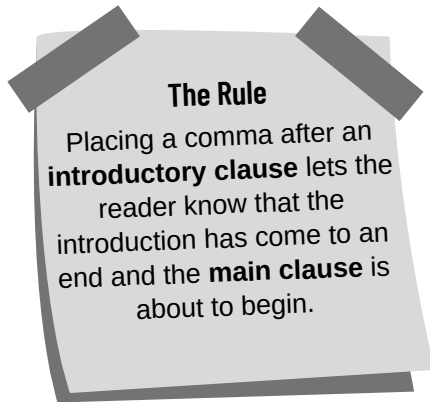
Ethan made sure to study because the final exam was going to be challenging.

I have the best sense of humor according to my friends.

We decided to go skiing since it was snowing for the first time all winter.

# INTRO CLAUSES NO PREP WORKSHEET

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OR

We needed to unpack our luggage **after the trip**.

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## Practice

**Add commas to the following sentences if they are needed. Not every sentence will need commas.**

1. Because the game was so one-sided, we left early.
2. Wading into the cool lake, we found relief from the heat.
3. The alarm clock no longer worked after the power outage.
4. According to my dad, our local football team is the best in the country.
5. If it is raining, we will need to move the wedding indoors.
6. Even if you are afraid of flying, you should embrace the opportunity to travel.
7. After the championship game, the team went out for ice-cream.
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**Rearrange these sentences to create introductory clauses followed by commas.**

The children were exhausted after a long day at summer camp.

*After a long day at summer camp, the children were exhausted.*

Ethan made sure to study because the final exam was going to be challenging.

*Because the final exam was going to be challenging, Ethan made sure to study.*

I have the best sense of humor according to my friends.

*According to my friends, I have the best sense of humor.*

We decided to go skiing since it was snowing for the first time all winter.

*Since it was snowing for the first time all winter, we decided to go skiing.*