

# Using Commas for Embedded Clauses

I can use commas to indicate parenthesis.

When you first start to use paired commas it can be helpful to start the embedded clause with the words:

- Where:** The city of New York, where you can see the famous Statue of Liberty, is an amazing place to visit.
- Who:** Mrs. Smith, who was the reception teacher, was asked to take the whole-school assembly.
- Which:** The city of London, which was where they first met, was the place they had chosen to get married.
- When:** Many years ago, when my parents were young, the Beatles were a very popular band.

## Task:

- Underline the embedded clauses.
  - Add the commas into the correct place.
1. The boy who was only seven could play the piano.
  2. The beach which was very crowded was hotter than ever.
  3. The ball which was kicked by the goal keeper flew through the air.
  4. The music which was too loud gave me a headache.
  5. The old lady who was carrying lots of bags waited for a taxi.
  6. The bus which was speeding went down the street.

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**Where:** The city of New York, where you can see the famous Statue of Liberty, is an amazing place to visit.

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**Which:** The city of London, which was where they first met, was the place they had chosen to get married.

**When:** Many years ago, when my parents were young, the Beatles were a very popular band.

## Task:

- Write the correct embedded clause to add detail to the main clause.

| Main Clause  | Embedded Clause | Main Clause           |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| The boy      |                 | could play the piano. |
| The beach    |                 | was hotter than ever  |
| The ball     |                 | flew through the air. |
| The music    |                 | gave me a headache.   |
| The old lady |                 | waited for a taxi.    |

| Embedded Clauses     |                            |                        |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| which was too loud   | which was hard and leather | who was only seven     |
| who had lots of bags |                            | which was very crowded |

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## Task:

• Re-write each sentence adding in an appropriate embedded clause.

1. The boy could play the piano.

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2. The beach was hotter than ever.

---

3. The ball flew through the air.

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4. The music gave me a headache.

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5. The old lady waited for a taxi.

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6. The bus went down the street.

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# Using Commas for Embedded Clauses

## Answers

★

Underline the embedded clauses.

Add the commas into the correct place.

1. **The boy, who was only seven, could play the piano.**
2. **The beach, which was very crowded, was hotter than ever.**
3. **The ball, which was kicked by the goal keeper, flew through the air.**
4. **The music, which was too loud, gave me a headache.**
5. **The old lady, who was carrying lots of bags, waited for a taxi.**

★★

Write the correct embedded clause to add detail to the main clause.

Add the commas into the correct places.

**The boy, who was only seven, could play the piano.**

**The beach, which was very crowded, was hotter than ever.**

**The ball, which was hard and leather, flew through the air.**

**The music, which was too loud, gave me a headache.**

**The old lady, who had lots of bags, waited for a taxi.**