

Name _____

Word Usage

Sit and Set

Sit means "to place oneself" and is an intransitive verb that does not require an object.
Set means "to put" or "to place" and is a transitive verb, and requires an object or use in passive construction.

Example: Don't sit on the sofa in those sweaty clothes.
I set the remote on the coffee table.
The date was set last fall. (passive)

Exceptions: The sun set.
They set out at dawn.
Wait a few hours for the paint to set.

Fill in the blank with the correct form of *sit* or *set*.

1. _____ your purse on the counter and come here.
2. I will _____ my alarm for four in the morning.
3. I will _____ next to Kali at the movies.
4. We had been _____ at the gate for two hours before the flight was cancelled.
5. I will be _____ in the center balcony during the performance.
6. The crew _____ the stage as quickly as they could.
7. Don't _____ the clock until you check with the station.
8. I _____ my suitcase on the conveyor belt.
9. Mildred _____ the mail on my desk.
10. The company's sales _____ a record last week.
11. All we could do was _____ and wait.
12. Never _____ in Papa Bear's chair.

Name _____

Punctuation

Commas

Comma usage does vary, but the following rules should be helpful:

1. Use a comma to separate independent clauses joined by the coordinating conjunctions *and*, *but*, *yet*, *neither*, *nor*, *or*, *so*, or *yet*, unless each clause is very short.

Examples: Brad will bring a variety of snacks, and Sarah will bring three or four videos.
The sky darkened, and the rain fell. (two short independent clauses)

2. Use a comma to separate a dependent (subordinate) clause from the main clause when the subordinate clause comes first. When the subordinate clause is in the middle, set it off with commas only if it is not essential to identifying the noun that precedes it.

Examples: The city in Louisiana which is the capital is Baton Rouge. (essential)
Baton Rouge, which is the capital of Louisiana, is in Cajun country.
(not essential)

Place commas where appropriate in each sentence. Some sentences need no commas.

1. The chapter which comes next contains the scary part.
2. Chapter 24 which contains the scary part was assigned for homework.
3. Although they aren't millionaires they travel in style.
4. The room was tiny and the view was not so good.
5. The bed in the room was lumpy but she fell asleep anyway.
6. She must set the alarm or risk missing the train.
7. If she missed the train she would be late for a very important appointment.
8. Alex missed the ticketing deadline so his ticket was much more expensive.
9. When you read her resumé you'll see that she is well-qualified.
10. The man whom they met in Paris was from Afghanistan.