

Instructor Guide for Using Commas

(SPARK >> Pulling It Together >> Essay Editing)

NOTE: This resource is not a worksheet, but it could be used in conjunction with exercises created by the instructor.

Skills Addressed

- using commas appropriately

Suggested Uses

- Independent student use:** Ask/ suggest that students read resource on their own and decide for themselves when/ if/ how they will use resource
- Instructor-led Discussion:** Devote lecture/ tutorial time to describing the resource, its purposes and uses, and/or incorporate description and use of resource into broader discussion focusing on building the skills the resource targets
- Small Group Discussion:** Use to stimulate informal class/ tutorial discussion, and/or small group discussion
 - Tip: An instructor could ask students to bring drafts to class for a peer-review exercise, and “Using Commas” could be one focus in the review process.

Feedback / Evaluation Options

- Personal reflection and/or self-assessment**
- Informally, in small group discussion:** Assign to students to complete independently then bring completed resource(s) to class or tutorial, for sharing and discussion in small groups
- Peer Evaluation:** Assign to students to complete independently, for more formal peer evaluation
- Instructor Evaluation:** Assign to students to complete independently and hand in for formal instructor evaluation
- Tracking Completion without Evaluating:** Assign to students to complete resource independently (on an ongoing basis, or at specific, appropriate times during the course), then hand in to instructor to track completion without assigning a specific grade to any individual completed resource

Potential Customization

The resource could be supplemented with additional example sentences. The students could be provided with examples of unpunctuated sentences and invited to use the resource as a guide for punctuating them correctly.