As separators of clauses—of two independent clauses OR an independent and a dependent clause:

*She went to IU Southeast, and she learned a lot.*

*Because she went to IU Southeast, she learned a lot.*

**With quotations—to separate quotation from speaker:**

*The conductor shouted, "It's time for the train to leave."

"It's time for the train to leave," shouted the conductor.*

Commam

There are five main uses for the comma:

*In series*

*After introductory phrases*

*With drop–ins*

*As separators of clauses*

*With quotations*
Let's review each of these uses:

**In series—to separate three or more adjectives and to separate three or more nouns:**

It was a cold, wet, gloomy night.

Bring sandwiches, drinks, and fruit for the picnic.

**After introductory phrases—before the rest of the words that form the basic sentence:**

*For example*, Joe Camel is clearly aimed at attracting younger smokers.

*Joe Camel*, your days are numbered.

*Yes, I'd like to be a doctor.*

*On the way to school this morning, I stopped for a donut.*

**With drop-ins—to insert extra information within the rest of the sentence:**

My house in Louisville, *Kentucky*, is on top of a hill.

December 7, *1941*, is a day that will live in infamy.

Roger, *who is usually late*, was on time this morning.

My wife, *on the other hand*, joined the Peace Corps in 1994.