

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.

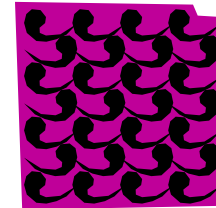
Because she went to IU Southeast, she learned a lot.

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.

Commas



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.