Commas

Series
• Use commas to separate items in a series.
• Example: The woman bought a pink dress, purple scarf, and crystal necklace.

Combine Sentences
• Use a comma to combine what would otherwise be two complete sentences with a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)
• Example: I raced to school, but I was still late to class.

Follow Introductory Words, Phrases, or Clauses
• Use a comma to follow introductory words, phrases, or clauses.
• Example: When the bell rang, the students filed into school.

Around an Appositive
• Use commas around an appositive, a noun or phrase that renames a nearby noun.
• Example: My favorite book, Where the Sidewalk Ends, makes me laugh when I open it.

Around Words or Phrases that Interrupt or Contrast with the Main Idea
• Use commas around a word or phrase that interrupts or contrasts with the main idea.
• Example: The water, however, tasted like eggs.