

Activity:

The aim of this activity is for children to practise using commas. There are three questions to complete. The first two questions allow children to practise the skill, while the third question extends them as they have to apply their learning to get the answer.

Vocabulary:

Commas (,) can be used to separate items in a list, after fronted adverbials, clarify meaning, or to avoid ambiguity.

Adverbials are groups of words which add detail to the verb. They add extra information, such as how or when an action was carried out. For example: She read her book before bedtime. The verb is 'read' and the adverbial is 'before bedtime'.

Fronted adverbials are adverbials which have been moved to the front of the sentence. The fronted adverbial is usually followed by a comma, for example: Before bedtime, she read her book.

Parenthesis is a word, phrase or clause added to a sentence to give further information or clarification. The sentence will still make sense without the parenthesis. Parenthesis is shown using parentheses, which can be a pair of commas, brackets or dashes. For example: Lucy put on her shoes (the red ones) before going outside.

Other resources:

If your child enjoyed this activity and wants to try more activities linked to this learning, you can sign up for £4.83 per month on [classroomsecrets.co.uk/membership](https://www.classroomsecrets.co.uk/membership).

Check out our daily timetable for Year 6 home learning activities on [kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk](https://www.kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk) >> Home Learning Timetable.

Commas

1. A) fronted adverbial; B) parenthesis; C) list
2. A) Maya asked, "Why doesn't the sun shine at night?"
B) Even though it was freezing, cold food was all that was available from the kiosk at the station.
C) My best friend, who has recently moved to Spain, has invited my family to stay at her new house, which has a pool, during the summer holidays.
3. Lola has used commas correctly for parenthesis around the subordinate clause 'some of which we didn't have at home'. Derek has incorrectly used commas for parenthesis around the object in the main clause.