

## The Comma

- A. Use a comma between all items in a series.
  - B. Use a comma after an introductory word group, including a dependent clause coming at the beginning of a complex sentence.
  - C. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction joining independent clauses (a compound sentence).
  - D. Use commas to set off nonrestrictive elements. Do not use commas to set off restrictive elements.
  - E. Always place periods and commas inside quotation marks in American English.
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- 1. In North Carolina there were white people Negroes and Indians.
  - 2a. When Bessie and Sadie couldn't find an apartment they moved in with their brother Lucius.
  - 2b. They moved in with their brother Lucius when they couldn't find an apartment.
  - 3. It was his apartment but his sisters were the boss.
  - 4a. The girl, who was flirting with Lucius, annoyed Bessie and Sadie to death.
  - 4b. Lucius's girlfriend who annoyed Bessie and Sadie to death was very attractive.
  - 5. All you had to do was say, "Let's go", and she'd say, "Just let me get my hat".