

39. Richard Lederer has written many books about language.

## Lesson 7

### Comma Usage

(136-138)

Use a comma between two or more adjectives that describe the same noun unless one of the adjectives describes color, size, or number. Also, do not put a comma after the articles *a*, *an*, and *the*.

The slow, lazy creek meandered around the bend.

A big red kite is fluttering high in the air.

Use a comma to separate items—words, phrases, or clauses—in a series. Place a comma after each item in the list except the final one.

From the catalog, Mom ordered a sweater, I bought some shoes, and Dad got work boots.

The helicopter lifted off the ground, swept over the trees, and disappeared into the distance.

The cupboard is full of cups, saucers, and plates.



**Place commas where needed.**

1. Dank cool air swept from the cave.
2. David expresses varying emotions in the Book of Psalms: delight fear anger depression and love.
3. The dog chased the cat through the yard under the fence and up a tree.
4. The snake's forked tongue lashed out at the small cowering mouse.
5. Erin asked for a hamburger Katie requested a milkshake and I ordered a salad.
6. Arriving quickly, the hurricane hit the middle East Coast swept to the North and even affected some of the inland states.

### Semicolon Usage

(143)

Use a semicolon between items in a list that already has commas.

The stories we read were "The Gift of the Magi," by O. Henry; "Rikki-Tikki-Tavi," by Rudyard Kipling; and "The Lady or the Tiger?" by Frank Stockton.

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We studied three famous African-Americans: George Washington Carver, a scientist; Harriet Tubman, a guide on the Underground Railroad; and James Weldon Johnson, a preacher and poet.

 **Circle the commas that should be semicolons.**

- 7. The grocery store has various sections: low-carb foods, for those watching carbohydrates, no-sugar foods, for diabetics, and organic foods, for those on special diets.
- 8. Several New Testament writers were Paul, who wrote many of the epistles, John, who wrote three epistles, and Luke, who wrote Luke and Acts.

 **Place commas and semicolons where needed.**

- 9. In the last five years, Jeff's family has visited New York, which has the Allegheny Mountains North Carolina which has the Smoky Mountains and Colorado which has the Rocky Mountains.
- 10. Philippians 4:8 tells us to think about things that are just pure good and honest.
- 11. At the spring program, Kristen read a poem Janice and Todd sang a duet and Sheri recited Scripture.
- 12. In one week, we drove through three large cities: Boston Massachusetts Trenton New Jersey and Philadelphia Pennsylvania.

 **Write a sentence . . .**

- 13. . . . that includes commas separating single words in a series.

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- 14. . . . that includes commas separating phrases in a series.

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- 15. . . . that includes semicolons separating a series that already has commas.

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## Looking Back . . .

 **Match each term with its definition.**

- |                            |                          |               |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| a. correlative conjunction | c. appositive            | e. participle | g. preposition           |
| b. non-count noun          | d. interrogative pronoun | f. audience   | h. demonstrative pronoun |


- 16. \_\_\_\_\_ people to whom a writing is addressed
- 17. \_\_\_\_\_ points something out
- 18. \_\_\_\_\_ a noun that cannot be counted or made plural
- 19. \_\_\_\_\_ a word or phrase that follows a noun and renames it

- 20. \_\_\_\_\_ asks a question
- 21. \_\_\_\_\_ a conjunction that is part of a pair
- 22. \_\_\_\_\_ a verb form functioning as an adjective
- 23. \_\_\_\_\_ a word that links a noun to the rest of the sentence

 **Write the part of speech for each underlined word: *noun* (*n*), *pronoun* (*pro*), *adjective* (*adj*), *preposition* (*prep*), or *conjunction* (*conj*).** Remember that participles are adjectives.

What an (24) interesting (25) time we had visiting Pete’s house! (26) He told us stories about his work in the (27) West doing (28) voluntary service in 1942 and 1943. He worked in a hospital, meticulously cleaning the wards and helping care for the (29) patients. (30) Traveling around (31) on their weekends off, both (32) he (33) and his friends visited the (34) Rocky Mountains and other sites. Pete remembers (35) those as (36) two years (37) of spiritual growth in his life.

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|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 24. _____ | 28. _____ | 32. _____ | 35. _____ |
| 25. _____ | 29. _____ | 33. _____ | 36. _____ |
| 26. _____ | 30. _____ | 34. _____ | 37. _____ |
| 27. _____ | 31. _____ |           |           |

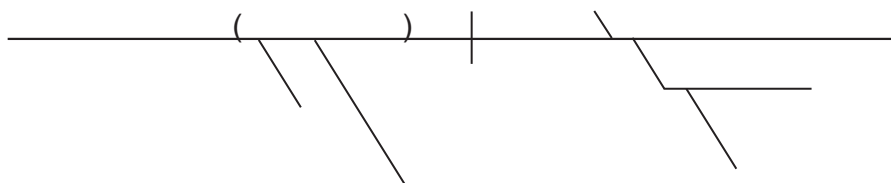
 **Put parentheses around the adjective phrases. Draw an arrow from each to the word it modifies.**

[6] (44, 45, 62)

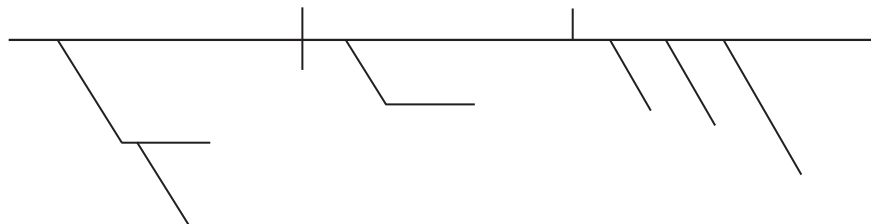
- 38. Laretta tried to remember the words of the song she had learned in first grade.
- 39. The title of the book on display intrigued Keith: *Doing What Comes Spiritually*.
- 40. The view from the top of the mountain was beautiful, well worth the effort of the climb.

 **Diagram the sentences.**

- 41. Spring, my favorite season, is full of new life.



- 42. Grinning with delight, Gene showed us his new driver’s license.



43. Maryann's younger sister has a box of seashells.

## Lesson 8

### Adjective Clauses and Relative Pronouns

(31, 76, 77)

A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and verb. Clauses can be *dependent* or *independent*. A dependent clause cannot stand on its own as a sentence because it does not contain a complete thought.

Dependent clauses can function in different ways within a sentence. An *adjective clause* modifies a noun or pronoun and follows the word modified. Adjective clauses are introduced by relative pronouns.

**who**                      **whom**                      **whose**                      **which**                      **that**

The relative pronoun can function as the subject of the clause.

*Paradise Lost*, [<sup>s</sup> which was written by John Milton,] is an imaginative story of the fall of Satan from heaven.

Jacob is the one [<sup>s</sup> who stole the birthright from his brother.]

The relative pronoun can also function as the direct object of the clause.

The new car [<sup>do</sup> that Joan likes best] is the Ford Focus.

My father is someone [<sup>do</sup> whom I highly respect.]

The relative pronoun sometimes functions as the object of a preposition. In this case, the preposition is included as a part of the clause.

The person [<sup>op</sup> to whom I gave the tract] seemed grateful.

The relative pronoun *whose* functions as an adjective. It modifies the subject of the clause.

Paul, [<sup>adj</sup> whose name was originally Saul,] was converted on the road to Damascus.



**Bracket the adjective clause in each sentence. Circle the relative pronoun. Write whether the pronoun functions as a *subject (s)*, *direct object (do)*, *object of preposition (op)*, or *adjective (adj)* within the clause.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The early colonists rejected the law that required them to pay taxes on tea.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The North won the battle at Gettysburg, which became a turning point of the Civil War.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Charles Lindbergh, whose solo flight across the Atlantic made him famous, also invented an artificial heart.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ My grandparents, to whom I owe my Christian heritage, were godly people.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The meal that Joel ordered was not available.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Solomon, who received wisdom from God, was tempted by his ungodly wives.

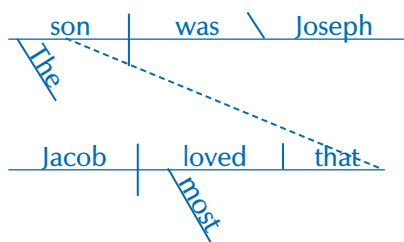


**Bracket the adjective clauses. Draw an arrow from each to the word it modifies.**

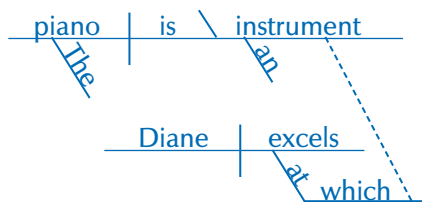
7. The son that Jacob loved most was Joseph.
8. Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord.
9. Where is the person to whom I should speak about a new driver's license?
10. Julius Caesar, who thought his friends were loyal, was betrayed and stabbed to death.
11. Dalmatian puppies, which are pure white at birth, get their distinctive spots when they are three or four weeks old.
12. Playing the piano is a hobby at which Diane excels.

Diagram the independent clause first. Then diagram the adjective clause below it. Connect the two diagrams by drawing a dotted line from the relative pronoun to the word the clause modifies.

**The son [that Jacob loved most] was Joseph.**

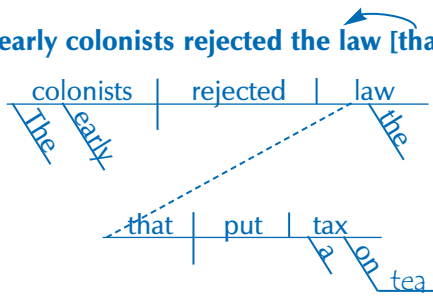


**The piano is an instrument [at which Diane excels.]**



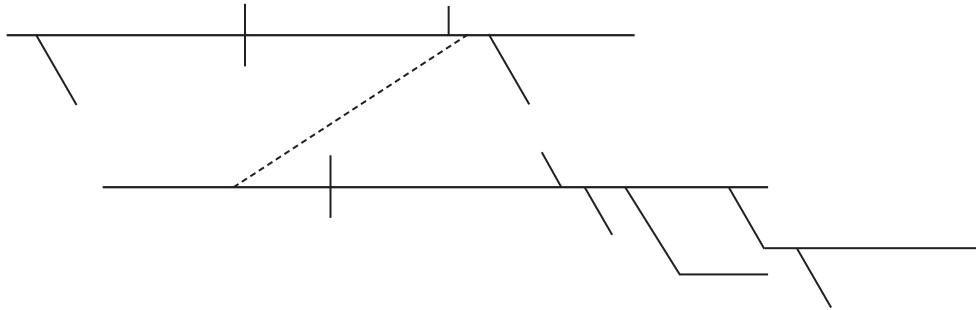
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The early colonists rejected the law [that put a tax on tea.]



**Diagram the sentences.** You may find it helpful to bracket the clauses and identify the subject-verb patterns before diagramming.

13. The North won the battle, which became a turning point of the Civil War.



14. The meal that Joel ordered was not available.

15. Julius Caesar, who had unfaithful friends, was stabbed to death.

Adjective clauses can be used to join short sentences and add variety to your writing. The sentence you want to emphasize less becomes the adjective clause.

**Original:** Matthew was a tax collector. Matthew was one of the last disciples called.

**New:** Matthew, who was a tax collector, was one of the last disciples called.

Matthew, who was one of the last disciples called, was a tax collector.

 **Join the two sentences into one, replacing the repeated word with a relative pronoun.**

16. Judas was evidently a treasurer for the disciples. Judas later denied Christ.

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17. Golgotha is the place where Jesus was crucified. Golgotha is called “the place of the skull.”

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18. The tire had a slow leak. The tire was flat after church.

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## Looking Back . . .

 **Circle the participle. Put parentheses around the appositive adjectives. Underline all the other adjectives.** [3, 6r] (33-37, 63, 64)

19. Isaac Watts, brilliant and famous, is called the Father of the Modern Hymn.  
 20. We often sing two lasting songs by Watts: “Joy to the World” and “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.”

 **Rewrite the sentence, correcting the misplaced modifier.** [4] (108, 109, 171)

21. Consisting mostly of psalms, the church had little variety in music before Watts’s time.

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 **Underline the appositive phrases. Circle the appositives.** [6r] (5, 63, 64)

22. That anthology, a compilation of children’s poems, is one of my favorite books.  
 23. My cousin Randy is planning a short-term mission trip to India this spring.

 **Circle the letter of the correctly punctuated sentence from each pair.** [7] (136-138, 143)

24. a. A chameleon’s tongue can be as long as the rest of its body, a shrew eats twice its body weight in food each day, and a group of foxes is called a skulk.  
 b. A chameleon’s tongue can be as long as the rest of its body; a shrew eats twice its body weight in food each day, and a group of foxes is called a skulk.
25. a. Several cities in the Midwest start with the letter Z: Zanesville, Ohio, Zion, Illinois, and Zionsville, Indiana.  
 b. Several cities in the Midwest start with the letter Z: Zanesville, Ohio; Zion, Illinois; and Zionsville, Indiana.
26. a. The empty lot had several old rusty cars sitting in it.  
 b. The empty lot had several old, rusty cars sitting in it.



Complete each sentence with an adjective phrase.

[6] (44, 45, 62)

- △ 27. That flower \_\_\_\_\_ is called a day lily.
- △ 28. One of the most beautiful waterfalls \_\_\_\_\_ can be found in Africa.
- △ 29. The man \_\_\_\_\_ is my uncle; he is an airplane mechanic.
- △ 30. I find it fascinating to read about the habits \_\_\_\_\_.



Write a paragraph meeting the following requirements:

[2]

- 31. *Length:* four or five sentences

*Intended audience:* someone studying the Book of Acts for the first time

*Purpose:* to inform and educate about the history of the early church

*Included facts:* Author is Luke; tells of Pentecost and the church’s beginning; Paul’s conversion, Peter’s work with the church, Paul’s missionary journeys, and his arrest and journey to Rome

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## Lesson 9

### Relative Adverbs in Adjective Clauses

(40, 76)

Although most adjective clauses begin with relative pronouns, a few can begin with other words. Sometimes the adverbs *where* and *when* are used to introduce an adjective clause.

These *relative adverbs* occur in adjective clauses that modify a noun telling about a time or place.

The corner [**where** the accident had occurred] was blocked off for investigation.

The time [**when** Adam was most homesick] was at bedtime.



Bracket the adjective clauses. Circle the relative adverbs.

- 1. After Germany, the country where Bob most wants to go is Switzerland.