

ENGLISH · Y3-Y6

Punctuation Practice

Commas, apostrophes, speech marks, brackets

Quick rules

Commas separate items in a list (apples, pears and bananas). Use a comma after a fronted adverbial (Slowly, the door opened.). Apostrophes show contraction (don't = do not) or possession (the dog's bowl). Speech marks open and close direct speech ("Hello," she said.). Brackets add extra information (The boy (her brother) waved.).

Set 1: Add commas

1. I bought apples pears bananas and grapes.
2. After breakfast Tom went to school.
3. Suddenly the door slammed shut.
4. She packed her books pencils calculator and snacks.
5. By the way I forgot my homework.
6. The teacher who arrived late apologised.
7. In the morning we have assembly.
8. We need eggs flour milk and butter.

Set 2: Add the apostrophe

1. The dogs bowl was empty. (one dog)
2. We dont want to be late.
3. Sarahs bag is on the floor.



4. 4. Im going to the park.
5. 5. The boys coats were on the pegs. (multiple boys)
6. 6. Theyre coming for dinner.
7. 7. The cats whiskers twitched. (one cat)
8. 8. Shes my best friend.

Set 3: Punctuate the speech

1. 1. Hello said Maya.
2. 2. Where are you going asked the teacher.
3. 3. Watch out shouted Tom.
4. 4. I think it might rain said Dad.
5. 5. Have you finished your homework she asked.
6. 6. Stop running shouted the headteacher.

Answer key

Set 1: 1. I bought apples, pears, bananas and grapes. 2. After breakfast, Tom went to school. 3. Suddenly, the door slammed shut. 4. She packed her books, pencils, calculator and snacks. 5. By the way, I forgot my homework. 6. The teacher, who arrived late, apologised. 7. In the morning, we have assembly. 8. We need eggs, flour, milk and butter.

Set 2: 1. dog's 2. don't 3. Sarah's 4. I'm 5. boys' 6. They're 7. cat's 8. She's

Set 3: 1. "Hello," said Maya. 2. "Where are you going?" asked the teacher. 3. "Watch out!" shouted Tom. 4. "I think it might rain," said Dad. 5. "Have you finished your homework?" she asked. 6. "Stop running!" shouted the headteacher.

