

Name:

Date:

10
total marks

Using Commas to Clarify Meaning Mini Test

1. Tick the sentences with meanings which could be changed with the addition of a comma.

- a) She found a mouse trap and cheese all in the bucket as planned.
- b) David had said he didn't care.
- c) The weather was horrible all day so they stayed in.
- d) He asked for money and Lego for his birthday.
- e) Don't risk it Grandma.

4 marks

2. How do commas affect the meaning of these sentences? Explain briefly for each pair.

a) As the sun shone orange, people looked desperately for shade.

As the sun shone, orange people looked desperately for shade.

b) When he saw the pirate ship on the horizon, the captain sounded the alarm.

When he saw the pirate ship, on the horizon the captain sounded the alarm.

2 marks

total for
this page

3. Add or remove commas to give these sentences the required meaning.

a) **Writing, clearly, isn't easy.**

Can you add or remove commas in that sentence to make it mean that 'writing so everyone can understand isn't easy'?

b) **Jess likes baking cats and doing ballet.**

Can you add commas in the sentence so it shows that Jess has three hobbies.

c) **Debbie's heroes are her parents, Spiderman, and Catwoman.**

Can you add or remove commas so that the sentence suggests that Debbie's parents *are* Spiderman and Catwoman.

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END OF TEST