

Commas in a List

Part A

Commas are used instead of 'and' to separate items in a list. A comma is not normally used between the final two items in a list. Instead, the word 'and' is used.

Example: Mrs. Rabbit's children are called Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail and Peter.

1. Can you add a colour code to the sentences below?

- Circle the commas that are correct in green.
- Circle the commas which are not needed in red.
- Add in any missing commas in any colour.

Example: Beatrix Potter wrote 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit', 'The Tale of Mrs. Tigglywinkle', 'The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin' and 'The Tale of Tom Kitten'.

- Peter Rabbit likes to eat, run play and explore.
- Mrs. Rabbit bought five currant buns, a brown loaf a turnip, and a selection of carrots.
- Mrs. Rabbit enjoys walking in the woods shopping cooking and playing with the children.
- Flopsy likes picking blackberries, nature spending time with her family, and playing fun games.
- Mr. McGregor hates rabbits mice rats and squirrels.
- Peter ate lettuces French beans, and radishes.
- Mr. McGregor has a hoe, a rake a spade, and a sieve.
- Mr. McGregor likes gardening eating pies, and resting in the sun.

2. Can you write your own list about what the sparrows have eaten today?

The sparrows have eaten _____

Commas in a List

Part B

Commas are used instead of 'and' to separate items in a list. A comma is not normally used between the final two items in a list. Instead, the word 'and' is used.

Example: Mrs. Rabbit's children are called Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail and Peter.

Here are some sentence starters which need lists adding to them.

You can make up the details to go in the lists. Remember to use commas correctly.

1. In his garden, Mr. McGregor grows _____

2. Mrs. McGregor enjoys _____

3. Cotton-tail enjoys _____

4. Mr. McGregor wears _____

5. The baker's shop sells _____

6. In the woods where the rabbits live, there are also _____

7. The days of the week that Mr. McGregor works in his garden are _____

8. Peter Rabbit likes to eat _____

Challenge Task

Use a whiteboard to write your own sentences which include commas in lists.

Commas in a List Answers

Part A

1.
 - a. Peter Rabbit likes to eat, run, play and explore.
 - b. Mrs. Rabbit bought five currant buns, a brown loaf, a turnip, and a selection of carrots.
 - c. Mrs. Rabbit enjoys walking in the woods, shopping, cooking and playing with the children.
 - d. Flopsy likes picking blackberries, nature, spending time with her family, and playing fun games.
 - e. Mr. McGregor hates rabbits, mice, rats and squirrels.
 - f. Peter ate lettuces, French beans, and radishes.
 - g. Mr. McGregor has a hoe, a rake, a spade, and a sieve.
 - h. Mr. McGregor likes gardening, eating pies, and resting in the sun.
2. Example answer: The sparrows have eaten berries, seeds and a lovely piece of apple.

Part B

Example answers:

1. In his garden, Mr. McGregor grows cabbages, turnips, radishes and lettuces.
2. Mrs. McGregor enjoys sleeping, weeding, snacking and planting.
3. Cotton-tail enjoys rolling in the grass, resting in her bed and playing with her brother and sisters.
4. Mr. McGregor wears trousers, a shirt, a jacket and some boots.
5. The baker's shop sells loaves of bread, currant buns, biscuits and large cakes.
6. In the woods where the rabbits live, there are also beetles, snails, crows, squirrels and hedgehogs.
7. The days of the week that Mr. McGregor works in his garden are Saturday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
8. Peter Rabbit likes to eat carrots, radishes, cabbages and bread.

Challenge Task

My favourite characters in this book are Peter Rabbit, Mrs. Rabbit and Mr. McGregor.

My favourite things to eat are noodles, grapes, crackers and melon.