

SPAG:

We are looking at commas and how they can be used in lists, to add information or when we take a pause in a complex sentence. A good way to remember this is CLAP.

Comma

Lists

Added Information

Pause



Commas in a list.

Alex was focused on the road ahead as he was being chased by: quad bikes, bulletproof vehicles and even a stealth helicopter.

Can you create one in your own book using commas in a list? Don't forget to CLAP them out.



Commas for added information.

Alex, who was hanging expertly out of the helicopter, gave one last look to the crew before taking the leap of faith.

Can you now write an added information sentence of your own in your book?



Comma to pause

As the wind blew wildly around them both, Alex grasped the girls hand tightly.

Can you use a comma for a pause in your book?

Can you know use all three different uses of a comma for the image below?



English:

In our class reader Alex visits a scrapyard to try and find his uncle's car. We have decided to use this setting to create an opening to our book. Use the example below to help you try and write your own:

Angrily, the enormous crane's mouth swallowed its next victim, spitting out all it couldn't chew. This place was a graveyard for cars. Eerie! The stench of oil, which burnt Alex's nostril hair, was enough to put anyone off their lunch. He was fully aware this might be his last place of rest! Piles of cars lay next to each other like fallen soldiers on a battlefield.

Running frantically for cover, his body pressed tightly against a crushed car. Tasting rubber briefly reminded Alex of a steak Jack

had overcooked for him only a day earlier. He needed to re-focus and think of a plan.

Suddenly, lights flickered illuminating him clearly to his enemies. Before your average 14 year old could blink, Alex dashed into the safety of another car...or was it?

We are also writing some short stories with our hero in the middle of the action like the one below which isn't finished. Can you carry on the story? Will he escape? How?

Tick tock, tick tock! The room felt smaller than a rabbit's burrow. A chink of light broke through the tiny crack of the locked door. Alex was in trouble...big trouble. Nervously he scanned the room for clues...an escape route maybe. Tick tock, tick tock. Next to the chair, which his hands were tied tightly to, a bomb stood proudly waiting to explode. He had been in many tricky situations before although this time it felt different. Tick tock, tick tock. "Help, is there anyone there?" The words travelled nowhere and bounced off the cold, damp walls smacking Alex in the face. Because he could see the detonation time (3 minutes, 6 seconds), he suddenly realised that feeling sorry for himself wasn't going to work.....