

POWER SENTENCES REVIEW - PREPOSITIONAL & APPOSITIVE PHRASES

★ PRACTICE 1: PROOFREADING WITH PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Directions: The following sentences, which contain prepositional phrases, need commas. Write the sentences and add commas where necessary to make the sentences clear.

EXAMPLE: *With the flavor of ham and biscuit in his mouth, the boy felt good.*

1. The giant peach with the moonlight glinting on its side was like a massive golden ball sailing upon a silver sea. Roald Dahl, *James and the Giant Peach*
2. On a night when the moon gazed down like an evil eye the young prince appeared in Jemmy's chamber. Sid Fleischman, *The Whipping Boy*
3. On the shores of Chincoteague the people pressed forward their faces strained to stillness as they watched Assateague Beach. Marguerite Henry, *Misty of Chincoteague*
4. Then like a glow of warmth in the chill he felt the comforting knowledge of wild creatures near. Alexander Key, *The Forgotten Door*
5. Through the glass in the door on the dryer they watched their assorted clothing spill and splash over and over and around and around. E. L. Konigsburg, *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*.

★ PRACTICE 2: COMBINING WITH PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Directions: Find the prepositional phrase(s) in the second sentence and place them at the caret (^) in the first sentence. Write the new sentence and underline all the prepositional phrases. Include commas as necessary.

EXAMPLE:

- a. ^ There was no sign that any other human being had ever been there.
- b. It was on the whole enormous prairie.

On the whole enormous prairie, there was no sign that any other human being had ever been there.

- 6a. ^, Tarik wiped his hands and placed his fingers around the handle of his sword.
- 6b. Tarik's hands were within the folds of his tunic.
 Walter Dean Myers, *Legend of Tarik*
- 7a. Brendon, ^, still slept, breathing through his mouth with a little snorting sound.
- 7b. Brendon was in his room at the end of the hall.
 Laura Ingalls Wilder, *Little House on the Prairie*
- 8a. Terrified, Bilbo tried to run faster, but suddenly he struck his toes on a snag in the floor and fell flat, ^.
- 8b. Bilbo fell with his little sword under him.
 J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*
- 9a. ^, just where the trees began, they saw the Lion slowly walking away from them into the wood.
- 9b. He was on the far side of the camping ground.
 C. S. Lewis, *The Chronicles of Narnia*
- 10a. ^, he gestured the warriors to stand away.
- 10b. It was with a slight movement of his skinny fingers.
 Lloyd Alexander, *The Book of Three*

★ PRACTICE 3: PROOFREADING WITH APPOSITIVE PHRASES

Directions: The following sentences, which contain appositive phrases, need commas. Write the sentences and add commas where necessary to make the sentences clear.

EXAMPLE: *Nobody was around but Snowball, the white cat belonging to Mrs. Little.*

11. Another man came in a man in dusty Levis and a black hat mottled with sweat.
Hal Borland, *When Legends Die*
12. Wilbur planned to have a talk with Templeton the rat that lived under his trough.
E.B. White, *Charlotte's Web*
13. Once upon a time there was a bat a little brown bat the color of coffee with cream in it.
Randall Jarrell, *The Bat Poet*
14. They all saw it this time a whiskered face that had looked out at them from behind a tree.
C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*
15. He felt the young man's surge of joy at seeing his brother alive the brother he had thought dead and buried in a forgotten part of the forest. Madeleine L'Engle, *A Swiftly Tilting Planet*

★ PRACTICE 4: COMBINING WITH APPOSITIVE PHRASES

Directions: Find the appositive phrase in the second sentence and place it at the caret (^) in the first sentence. Write the new sentence and underline the appositive phrase. Include commas as necessary.

EXAMPLE:

- a. The pilot seemed more a machine than a man, ^.
- b. He seemed an extension of the plane.

The pilot seemed more a machine than a man, an extension of the plane.

- 16a. John dusted off his best chair, ^.
- 16b. It was a rocker with its runners off.
Joseph Krumboltz, *Onion John*
- 17a. ^, Christopher John took little interest in troublesome things, preferring to remain on good terms With everyone.
- 17b. He was a short round boy of seven.
Mildred D. Taylor, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*
- 18a. Suddenly they were aware of someone coming toward them, ^.
- 18b. He was a tall man in rough clothes with a musket over his shoulder.
Rachel Field, *Calico Bush*
- 19a. Out stepped Sam Beaver, ^.
- 19b. Sam was the boy who had visited them a month ago.
E.B. White, *The Trumpet of the Swan*
- 20a. The dawn came quickly now, ^, as the sun arose out of the Gulf.
- 20b. There was a wash, a glow, a lightness, and then an explosion of fire.
John Steinbeck, *The Pearl*