

TEACHER INFORMATION

A **comma** (,) suggests a short pause and is used to make meaning clearer by separating parts of a sentence. Use a comma to:

- separate items in a list; e.g. I took pens, pencils, paper and paints to the class.
- separate lists of adjectives; e.g. He is talented, smart, strong and mature.
- separate clauses in a sentence; e.g. If I see him today, I'll definitely tell him.
- separate words, phrases and clauses at the start of a sentence; e.g. Firstly, I'm not going!
- separate words that add extra information; e.g. Kylie, my best friend, is coming to visit.
- separate the carrier (*I replied*) from the direct speech; e.g. 'That is Kylie', I replied.

Answers

- Ella, Lucy and Olivia have been best friends since they first started school.
 - Friday is my favourite day because we have assembly, art, science and sport.
 - We went to the beach and surfed, swam, ate ice-cream and built a giant sandcastle.
 - Our family celebrates Christmas, Easter, birthdays and New Year's Day.
 - I wasn't happy when Mum decided not to buy muffins, pizza, cupcakes, chocolate and biscuits.
- Although the accident was serious enough to close the road, the emergency services worked quickly and no-one died.
 - The new government was elected in March, though some people weren't happy with the result.
 - I'm not really interested in watching that film, unless you've got plenty of popcorn to eat!
 - Tessa promised she would be absolutely honest, then she told me something I knew was untrue.
 - Unless I finish the jobs I need to do at home, I'm not going to be able to go out.
- Melbourne, in Australia, has wonderful sporting facilities.
 - I used my imagination, which is sometimes bizarre, to write an incredible story for the school paper.
 - Dad decided that his mobile phone, bought two years ago, was now obsolete.
 - The netball team I support, the Flying Eagles, finally made it to the grand final.
 - The new shoes my sister bought, which cost a small fortune, were so high I thought she might fall.
- My best friend, Jason, is a lot like me, except for the colour of his hair, which is black.
 - My computer, an old one, seemed to be working slower every day, though it could be my imagination.
 - Dad and I went shopping for boots, socks, a jumper and a scarf so that we'd be ready for the new season, which starts in a week.
 - The roast dinner, which Nan cooked, had potatoes, pumpkin, corn, parsnip and tender chicken.
 - If I can't see you on Saturday, I'll call, text or email to let you know what I'm doing.
- When my parents bought their new high definition TV, they thought it would be easy to connect. However, it soon turned to frustration as Dad, who is always quick to temper, couldn't work out which cord went where. 'Read the instructions', Mum advised, but Dad didn't listen. It soon turned worse when Dad, looking triumphant, pressed a button and expected the screen to light up. Instead, a big spark flashed, a loud bang was heard and smoke started rising from the back of the TV. Oh no!