

Nanocad writing lesson

- Pages 1-7 of Strunk and White
- Candy if you answer questions right
- No penalty for guessing
- 50-50 odds

1. Possessive nouns

Which of the following are correct?

- Charles' poems
- Abde Alis computer
- Our's table
- Moses' Laws
- Liangzhen's laptop likes it's memory
- It's time for group meeting
- It's somebody else's job

1. Possessive nouns

Rule:

- Always use “ 's “ after a word, except for:
 - Pronominal possessives:
 - hers, its, theirs, yours
 - Ancient words that end in -es or -is
 - Moses, Jesus, Isis

2. Commas

Correct or incorrect?

1. I like placement, routing and ice cream.
2. The lab should be called the Lai, Gupta & Ghaida Lab.

2. Commas

Rule:

- Use the commas after each term but the last
 - e.g. “There's 1, 2, and 3 people at the house”
- It's ok for business names to omit the last comma
 - e.g. “Law office of Little, Brown and Company”

3. Parentheticals and Commas

Correct or incorrect?

- Lianzhen's friend, Abde is a funny man.
- Wednesday, April 13, 2011.
- 13 April 2011.
- Abde you're in big trouble.
- Drivers, packages, etc. belong in the lab.
- Lerong Cheng Ph.D. graduated last year

3. Parentheticals and Commas

Rule

- Place parenthetical expressions between commas
 - Unless the interruption is slight, e.g.
 - However don't eat the keyboard.
 - Also, after phd, etc, ie, etc,

3. More Parentheticals and Commas

Correct or incorrect:

- The poet, Rani Ghaida, is Lebanese.
- The scholar Abde Ali likes cricket.
- In 1984 when TILOS was written Windows was launched

3. More Parentheticals and Commas

Rule:

- Commas are not needed for restrictive clause
- Restrictive clauses help to explain or define the subject:
 - People who do not like research should not be graduate students
 - My coworker Bob likes Sunin
- Nonrestrictive clauses do not define but just add something interesting
 - omitting these clauses does not change the meaning of the sentence
 - 2011, the year of the cat, is a good year for jobs

4. Commas before independent clauses

Correct or incorrect?

- The algorithm is slow but there is no alternative
- Keyboards are helpful for research, but you can't research keyboards.
- There are many computers, but there are few students.
- There are many computers and they do not like windows.

4. Commas before independent clauses

Rule:

- Place a comma before independent clauses
 - Clauses joined by and / but
- Also use commas for two part sentences with:
 - As, for, or, nor, while
- If both clauses have the same subject (which is expressed once), and they are connected with “and” the comma should be omitted:
 - Abde likes Rubios and he likes cricket.
 - Abde likes Rubios, and Abde likes cricket.

5. Multiple independent clauses

Correct or incorrect:

- Weste's CMOS VLSI Design is a great book, it is full of good equations.
- Rani's "Early Evaluation of Design Rules" is a great paper; it was presented at IMPACT.
- Rani's "Early Evaluation of Design Rules" is a great paper, besides it was presented at IMPACT.
- Rani's "Early Evaluation of Design Rules" is a great paper. It was presented at IMPACT.
- Here I am, there you go.

5. Multiple independent clauses

Rule:

- Use a “;” to join two independent clauses **not joined by a conjunction.**
- Independent clauses are two clauses that can form their own sentence.
 - I like to eat giant pandas. I usually eat tacos.
 - I like to eat giant pandas; I usually eat tacos.
- It's ok to use “,” for very short clauses
 - I like pandas, I eat tacos.

6. Breaking sentences

Correct or incorrect:

- I met Rani several years ago at UCLA. Eating tacos at Rubios.
- Liangzhen likes to tacos too. From Taco Bell.

6. Breaking sentences

Rule

- Do not use periods for commas:
 - If you can use a comma, **use a comma**