**Comma Rules in English**

1. **Use a comma between each item in a *series*.**

Jon had to pick up milk, bread, and sugar at the grocery store.

1. **Use a comma to join *independent clauses* (with a *coordinating conjunction*).**

**FANBOYS – for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so.**

Going to the dog park was an adventure, and the dogs had a great time there.

1. **Use a comma to set off *introductory elements*.**

By the way, if you’re driving on Friday, I could use a ride.

1. **Use a comma between *coordinate adjectives*.**

The old gymnasium was drafty, dreary, and dilapidated.

1. **Use a comma to indicate a *contrast or turn* in a sentence.**

I’d love to help you, but I’m busy now.

1. **Use a comma to separate cities, states, countries.**

She said that she was born in Muncie, Indiana, but she moved to Cleveland, Ohio.

1. **Use a comma to separate *quoted language* from unquoted language.**

“A house divided,” Lincoln said, “against itself cannot stand.”

Did my mom say, “Take out the trash”?

“’A house divided cannot stand' is what Lincoln said,” yelled the teacher.

1. **Use commas to indicate *parenthetical elements* in a sentence. (“extra information”)**

Avis told her grandmother, who was eighty-nine years old, to be careful driving.