

How to use the comma for lists, to separate a...

understand how to use the comma for lists, to separate a dependent clause from an independent clause, and in dialogue

Learning intention

- understand how to use the comma for lists, to separate a dependent clause from an independent clause, and in dialogue

Teach and model

- identifying different uses of commas such as commas and conjunctions between independent clauses in compound sentences
- using commas in dialogue; for example, Ben said, "I want pie, peas, carrots and chips for dinner, followed by ice cream for dessert, please."

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in how to use the comma for lists, to separate a... using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.