12.5 Commas after Fronted Adverbials: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Talent Show at Meadowbrook Primary

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Early one Friday morning, the school hall was transformed for the annual talent show. Behind the stage curtain, the performers waited nervously for their turn. Deniz tuned his guitar one last time, and Yasmin practised her song under her breath. At exactly two o'clock, Mr Osei welcomed the parents and switched on the coloured spotlights. Without any warning, the microphone crackled loudly and made the whole audience jump. Bravely, the first act stepped forward and began to juggle three oranges. Later in the afternoon, a group of Year 4 pupils performed a dance they had choreographed themselves. Just before the interval, Yasmin finally walked onto the stage and sang her favourite song. Afterwards, the judges awarded a prize to every single performer. By the end of the show, everyone agreed it had been the best talent show yet.

1 In the passage, the writer begins a sentence with the single-word fronted adverbial 'Bravely' rather than writing 'The first act stepped forward bravely.' Explain the effect of placing this adverbial at the front of the sentence.

(2)

2 Write three sentences of your own about a school event. Each sentence must begin with a different type of fronted adverbial: one of time, one of place and one of manner. Remember to add a comma after each one.

(3)

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3 Write a short paragraph (three to four sentences) about a school event of your own choosing. Your paragraph must include: one fronted adverbial of time, and one fronted adverbial of place or manner, with a comma correctly placed after each one. Underline both fronted adverbials in your paragraph.

(4)

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4 Each sentence below has a comma wrongly placed in the middle of the fronted clause. Rewrite each sentence with the comma moved to straight after the whole clause.

(a) When the bell, rang the children lined up. **(1)**

(b) Although she was very, tired Maya finished her homework. **(1)**

(c) If the weather, stays fine the match will go ahead. **(1)**

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5 The paragraph below is missing three commas after fronted adverbials. Find and correct the three errors.

When the whistle blew the runners set off at once. Because the track was wet several runners slipped near the bend. Although the weather improved later the race had already finished.

(3)

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6 Some of the sentences below need a comma added after a fronted adverbial; others are already correct. Decide, then write out each sentence correctly.

(a) Before the storm arrived the fishermen returned to the harbour. **(2)**

(b) The fishermen worked quickly. **(2)**

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7 Combine each pair of short sentences below into one sentence, turning the underlying idea into a fronted adverbial clause using the conjunction given in brackets. Remember to add a comma after the clause.

(a) Yasmin was nervous. She still walked onto the stage. (Although) **(1)**

(b) The microphone crackled. The audience jumped. (When) **(1)**

(c) The show finished late. The traffic was heavy. (Because) **(1)**

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8 Each sentence below has a comma wrongly placed in the middle of the fronted clause. Rewrite each sentence with the comma moved to straight after the whole clause.

(a) Because the gates, were locked the visitors waited outside. **(1)**

(b) When the music, started everyone began to dance. **(1)**

(c) If the forecast, is right it will snow tonight. **(1)**

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9 Tick the subordinating conjunction that begins the fronted clause in each sentence below.

(a) Because the rain had stopped, we went outside to play. **(1)**

- [ ] A) Because
- [ ] B) rain
- [ ] C) stopped

(b) Although it was cold, the children still wanted an ice cream. **(1)**

- [ ] A) cold
- [ ] B) Although
- [ ] C) children

(c) If the weather stays fine, the match will go ahead. **(1)**

- [ ] A) weather
- [ ] B) match
- [ ] C) If

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10 Some sentences below begin with a fronted adverbial (a word, phrase or clause) and need a comma. Others simply begin with their subject and need no comma. Tick the correct box for each sentence.

(a) Maya finished her homework. **(1)**

- [ ] Comma needed
- [ ] No comma needed

(b) Although she was tired Maya finished her homework. **(1)**

- [ ] Comma needed
- [ ] No comma needed

(c) The weather stayed fine all afternoon. **(1)**

- [ ] Comma needed
- [ ] No comma needed

(d) If the weather stays fine the match will go ahead. **(1)**

- [ ] Comma needed
- [ ] No comma needed

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11 Insert the missing comma after the fronted adverbial in each sentence below.

(a) During the final performance the whole audience fell silent. **(1)**

(b) In spite of the rain the sports day went ahead. **(1)**

(c) At the very end of the show the judges announced the winner. **(1)**

(d) With a mixture of pride and relief Mr Osei thanked everyone. **(1)**

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12 Choose a fronted adverbial from the box to begin each sentence below. Remember to add a comma after the adverbial.

Word bank: Every Friday, | Without warning, | Later that afternoon,

(a) ___ the choir rehearses in the hall. **(1)**

(b) ___ the lights went out. **(1)**

(c) ___ the class performed their play for the parents. **(1)**

13 Rewrite each sentence below so that it begins with the adverbial given in brackets. Remember to add a comma after the fronted adverbial.

(a) The choir sang their new song. (Loudly) **(1)**

(b) Yasmin tuned her guitar carefully. (Before the show) **(1)**

(c) The pupils lined up quietly. (After the bell rang) **(1)**

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Mark scheme · 12.5 Commas after Fronted Adverbials: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies that fronting the adverbial puts the emphasis on the manner (courage) before the reader knows who is acting — **B1**

identifies an effect on the reader, e.g. builds anticipation for what the performer is about to do, or draws immediate attention to how brave the act was (oe) — **B1**

Answer: **It puts the emphasis on how brave the act was right at the start of the sentence, building the reader's anticipation before we find out what the performer actually does.**

Question 2

sentence using a correctly punctuated fronted adverbial of time — **B1**

sentence using a correctly punctuated fronted adverbial of place — **B1**

sentence using a correctly punctuated fronted adverbial of manner — **B1**

Answer: **Last Tuesday, the whole school took part in a fire drill. Outside the classroom, the children lined up in neat rows. Calmly, the teachers checked that everyone was safe.**

Question 3

correctly punctuated fronted adverbial of time used and underlined — **B1**

correctly punctuated fronted adverbial of place or manner used and underlined — **B1**

comma correctly placed straight after each fronted adverbial (not before the end of the phrase) — **B1**

paragraph is written in connected, coherent sentences about a school event — **B1**

Answer: **On sports day, the whole school gathered on the field. Nervously, the youngest pupils lined up for the first race. When the whistle blew, everyone cheered as the runners set off.**

Question 4

(a) comma moved to after rang, not after bell cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **When the bell rang, the children lined up.**

(b) comma moved to after tired, not after very cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **Although she was very tired, Maya finished her homework.**

(c) comma moved to after fine, not after weather cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **If the weather stays fine, the match will go ahead.**

Question 5

comma inserted after blew cao — **B1**

comma inserted after wet cao — **B1**

comma inserted after later cao — **B1**

Answer: **When the whistle blew, the runners set off at once. Because the track was wet, several runners slipped near the bend. Although the weather improved later, the race had already finished.**

Question 6

(a) correctly identifies that a comma is needed and writes Before the storm arrived, the fishermen returned to the harbour. (1 mark for the correct decision, 1 for the correct sentence) — **B2**

(a) Answer: **Before the storm arrived, the fishermen returned to the harbour.**

(b) correctly identifies that no comma is needed and writes The fishermen worked quickly. unchanged (1 mark for the correct decision, 1 for leaving the sentence unchanged) — **B2**

(b) Answer: **The fishermen worked quickly. (no comma needed)**

Question 7

(a) Although Yasmin was nervous, she still walked onto the stage. cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **Although Yasmin was nervous, she still walked onto the stage.**

(b) When the microphone crackled, the audience jumped. cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **When the microphone crackled, the audience jumped.**

(c) Because the traffic was heavy, the show finished late. cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **Because the traffic was heavy, the show finished late.**

Question 8

(a) comma moved to after locked, not after gates cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **Because the gates were locked, the visitors waited outside.**

(b) comma moved to after started, not after music cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **When the music started, everyone began to dance.**

(c) comma moved to after right, not after forecast cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **If the forecast is right, it will snow tonight.**

Question 9

(a) A ticked (Because) cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **A) Because**

(b) B ticked (Although) cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **B) Although**

(c) C ticked (If) cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **C) If**

Question 10

(a) No comma needed ticked cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **No comma needed**

(b) Comma needed ticked cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **Comma needed**

(c) No comma needed ticked cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **No comma needed**

(d) Comma needed ticked cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **Comma needed**

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Question 11

(a) comma inserted after performance cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **During the final performance, the whole audience fell silent.**

(b) comma inserted after rain cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **In spite of the rain, the sports day went ahead.**

(c) comma inserted after show cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **At the very end of the show, the judges announced the winner.**

(d) comma inserted after relief cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **With a mixture of pride and relief, Mr Osei thanked everyone.**

Question 12

(a) Every Friday, chosen and comma used (oe, any adverbial from the box that makes sense with a comma) **B1**

(a) Answer: **Every Friday, the choir rehearses in the hall.**

(b) Without warning, chosen and comma used (oe, any adverbial from the box that makes sense with a comma) **B1**

(b) Answer: **Without warning, the lights went out.**

(c) Later that afternoon, chosen and comma used (oe, any adverbial from the box that makes sense with a comma) **B1**

(c) Answer: **Later that afternoon, the class performed their play for the parents.**

Question 13

(a) Loudly placed at the front of the sentence with a comma cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **Loudly, the choir sang their new song.**

(b) Before the show placed at the front of the sentence with a comma cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **Before the show, Yasmin tuned her guitar carefully.**

(c) After the bell rang placed at the front of the sentence with a comma cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **After the bell rang, the pupils lined up quietly.**

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