12.5 Commas after Fronted Adverbials: Test Pack

about 15 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 A fronted adverbial is a word or phrase that starts a sentence and tells us more about the action. In Year 4 work it is followed by a comma. Tick the fronted adverbial in each sentence below.

(a) Suddenly, the fire alarm rang through the school. **(1)**

- ☐ A) the fire alarm
- ☐ B) Suddenly,
- ☐ C) rang through the school

(b) In the afternoon, the class went to the library. **(1)**

- ☐ A) In the afternoon,
- ☐ B) went to the library
- ☐ C) the class

(c) Behind the classroom, the children played hopscotch. **(1)**

- ☐ A) the children
- ☐ B) played hopscotch
- ☐ C) Behind the classroom,

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(d) Every Friday, the choir rehearses in the hall. **(1)**

- ☐ A) Every Friday,
- ☐ B) the choir
- ☐ C) rehearses in the hall

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2 Tick the two sentences below that use a comma correctly after a fronted adverbial.

- ☐ A) Later that day the choir performed again.
- ☐ B) Later that day, the choir performed again.
- ☐ C) After the show, the caretaker tidied the hall.
- ☐ D) After the show the caretaker tidied the hall.

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

Early that evening the hall began to fill with excited families. Without any fuss the caretaker set out the last few chairs. Just as the doors opened Mr Osei switched on the stage lights.

(3)

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4 Read the two sentences below.

Tick the sentence that punctuates the fronted adverbial correctly, then explain in one sentence why the other sentence is wrong.

- ☐ A) Later, that day the whole school cheered.
- ☐ B) Later that day, the whole school cheered.

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5 Write four sentences of your own. TWO sentences must begin with a single-word or short-phrase fronted adverbial (with a comma). TWO sentences must begin with a fronted adverbial clause starting with when, if, because or although (with a comma).

(4)

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6 A fronted adverbial can also be a short clause that starts with a subordinating conjunction such as when, if or although. It still needs a comma after it, just like a single-word or phrase fronted adverbial. Insert the missing comma in each sentence below.

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

(b) If it rains tomorrow the sports day will be postponed. **(1)**

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

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7 Circle the sentence in each pair that has its comma correctly placed after the fronted adverbial.

(a) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) Yesterday the school choir won a national award.
- ☐ B) Yesterday, the school choir won a national award.

(b) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) Filled with pride the head teacher clapped loudly.
- ☐ B) Filled with pride, the head teacher clapped loudly.

(c) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) Once the show had finished, the parents cheered.
- ☐ B) Once the show had finished the parents cheered.

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Question 1

(a) B ticked (Suddenly,) cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) Suddenly,**

(b) A ticked (In the afternoon,) cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **A) In the afternoon,**

(c) C ticked (Behind the classroom,) cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **C) Behind the classroom,**

(d) A ticked (Every Friday,) cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **A) Every Friday,**

Question 2

B ticked (Later that day, the choir performed again.) cao **B1**

C ticked (After the show, the caretaker tidied the hall.) cao **B1**

Answer: **B and C**

Question 3

comma inserted after evening cao **B1**

comma inserted after fuss cao **B1**

comma inserted after opened cao **B1**

Answer: **Early that evening, the hall began to fill with excited families. Without any fuss, the caretaker set out the last few chairs. Just as the doors opened, Mr Osei switched on the stage lights.**

Question 4

B ticked cao **B1**

valid reason given, e.g. in A the comma is placed in the middle of the fronted adverbial, after Later, instead of at the end of the whole phrase, after day (oe) **B1**

Answer: **B; in sentence A the comma is wrongly placed in the middle of the fronted adverbial (after Later) instead of at the end of the whole phrase (after day).**

Question 5

first sentence begins with a correctly punctuated single-word or short-phrase fronted adverbial **B1**

second sentence begins with a correctly punctuated single-word or short-phrase fronted adverbial **B1**

third sentence begins with a correctly punctuated fronted adverbial clause (when/if/because/although) **B1**

fourth sentence begins with a correctly punctuated fronted adverbial clause (when/if/because/although) **B1**

Answer: **Example: Quietly, the choir filed onto the stage. Behind the curtain, the props were stacked neatly. When the lights dimmed, everyone fell silent. Because the microphone had failed, the singer used no amplification.**

Question 6

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

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

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

(b) Answer: **If it rains tomorrow, the sports day will be postponed.**

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

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

Question 7

(a) B circled cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) Yesterday, the school choir won a national award.**

(b) B circled cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **B) Filled with pride, the head teacher clapped loudly.**

(c) A circled cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **A) Once the show had finished, the parents cheered.**

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