

Appositives and Appositive Phrases

Essential Question:

Why do we want to use Appositives and
Appositive Phrases in our writing?

Definition

An **appositive** is:

A noun or pronoun placed after another noun or pronoun to:

- identify,
- rename, or
- explain the preceding word.

Examples of an appositive

- The basketball coach, Mr. Murphy, lead the team to victory.
- I want to visit Spain's famous museum, The Prado.

Appositive Phrase

- An appositive phrase is:
- A noun or pronoun with modifiers (describing words).
- It stands next to a noun or pronoun and adds information or details.

Examples of appositive phrases

- Willa Cather, an American novelist, wrote *My Antonia*.
- Lisbon, a thriving port in Portugal, has often been the scene of espionage.
- The shopping center—a network of cars, shops, and people--provides many jobs.

Appositives and appositive phrases **CAN** be compound

- The two settings, a city in England and a city in Russia, are contrasted in the book.

Commas and appositives

- When this word or group of words interrupts a sentence, it needs commas on both sides.
- Riley, my dog, is gregarious
- EXCEPTION: If it is one word, name, or title, NO COMMA IS NEEDED!
 - My dog Riley is gregarious.

Commas and appositives

- Commas are put around the appositive phrase because it is NOT necessary to the meaning of the sentence.
- This means if you take the appositive phrase out of the sentence, it still makes sense.

EXAMPLE

Riley, my gregarious dog, will jump up on his hind legs when he meets people.

Examples from Tuck Everlasting

- “Winnie, the only child of the house, never went there...”
- It was Mae Tuck with her other son, Jesse’s older brother.

Examples from *Tuck Everlasting*

Then she stood and took from the washstand beside the bed, a little square-shaped object, a music box painted with roses and lilies of the valley.

Examples from *Tuck Everlasting*

On the left stood the first house, a square and solid cottage with a touch-me-not appearance, surrounded by grass cut painfully to the quick and enclosed by a capable iron fence...

Examples from *Tuck Everlasting*

The last stains of sunset had melted away, and the twilight died, too, as he stood there, though its remnants clung reluctantly to everything that was pale in color— pebbles, the dusty road, the figure of the man himself— turning them blue and blurry.

Examples from *Tuck Everlasting*

But in another part of her head, the dark part where her oldest fears were housed, she knew there was another sort of reason for staying at home: she was afraid to go away alone..

Examples from *Tuck Everlasting*

And at once, when she saw the two of them, Jesse with his foot on the pile of pebbles and Winnie on her knees beside him, she seemed to understand.