

- a. Some say it's a myth that the Great Wall of China, the longest wall in the world, can be seen from space.
- b. The Great Wall of China is built of stone, earth, and brick.

Circle the commas in sentence a. Circle the commas in sentence b. In which sentence do the commas separate three items in a series? ____

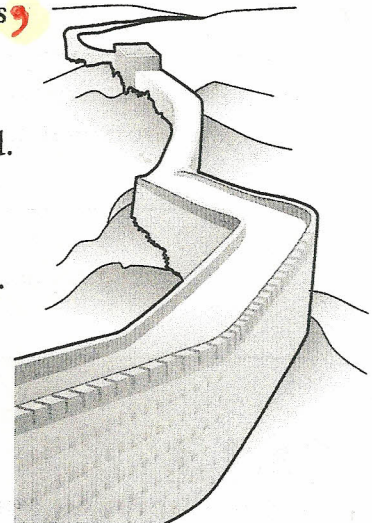
A **series** is a list of three or more words or phrases. **Commas** are used to separate items in a series. Each item in a series might consist of one word or a longer phrase. The last comma in a series goes before the conjunction (*and*, *or*). A comma is not needed to separate two items.

See Handbook Section 8

Part 1

Add commas where they are needed in the sentences. Cross out commas that should not be there.

1. Long ago, warring Chinese states built walls to protect their crops, cattle, and communities from each other.
2. These early walls were crude, uneven, and often hastily constructed.
3. In about 221 B.C., the king of Qin took control of the warring states, united them, and named himself the first emperor of China.
4. This ruler called for the existing walls to be expanded, strengthened, and consolidated into a single wall.
5. The wall was built mostly by soldiers, prisoners, and peasants; its construction took hundreds of years.
6. The wall itself could not fight enemies, and protect citizens.
7. Watchtowers, fortresses, and living quarters were built at strategic points along the wall.
8. The fortresses housed troops, supplies, and weapons.
9. Soldiers had to guard the wall, fight off enemies, maintain the towers, and grow food.
10. Soldiers used fire, smoke, and flag signals to communicate with each other.
11. Soldiers' letters complained about the low pay, poor living conditions, and isolation of life.



Archaeologists believe sections of the wall are still buried.