

Read and Discover

More Uses of Commas

Lesson 47

“Mrs. Perez, is it true that huge cities existed in Mexico thousands of years ago?” David asked.

“Yes, Tenochtitlán was Mexico’s largest ancient city, and as many as 200,000 people may have lived there.”

Find the name of the person being spoken to in the first sentence. What punctuation mark comes after it? _____

Find the word that introduces the second sentence. What punctuation mark follows it? _____

Find the conjunction that joins the two parts of the second sentence. What punctuation mark comes before it? _____

Commas tell a reader where to pause. A comma is used to separate an **introductory word** from the rest of a sentence. It is used to separate **independent clauses** in a **compound sentence** and to separate a **noun of direct address** from the rest of a sentence. A noun of direct address names a person who is being spoken to.

See Handbook Sections 8 and 21

Part 1

Add the missing comma to each sentence. Then decide why the comma is needed. Write *I* for introductory word, *C* for compound sentence, or *D* for direct address.

1. “Hey listen to this!” Emil said. ____
2. “About 40,000 people lived in the city of Teotihuacán in 100 B.C. and by A.D. 500 its population had tripled!” ____
3. “Was this city similar to modern cities Mrs. Perez?” asked Amy. ____
4. “Well Teotihuacán had about 2,000 apartment houses,” Mrs. Perez answered. ____
5. “It also had a huge open market and archaeologists have identified 500 workshops.” ____
6. “Yes I see some similarities,” Hank noted. ____
7. “I can picture the appearance of an ancient city but I can’t imagine a big city without electricity,” Duane said. ____
8. “Duane did you know that Teotihuacán had more than 600 pyramids?” asked Emil. ____
9. “They were all impressive but the Pyramid of the Sun is the most famous one,” Mrs. Perez said. ____

