

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Punctuating Appositives

Depending on the kind of information an appositive provides, it might need to be offset from the rest of a sentence. This is most often done with commas, although sometimes other punctuation may be used instead.

**Restrictive appositives** are essential to the meaning of a sentence. If they are removed, the meaning of the sentence requires clarification.

**Do not use commas or any other punctuation to offset restrictive appositives.**

antecedent →                      ← appositive

**Example:**    The popular book Spots to Visit says this park is a must-see stop.  
*If the appositive is removed, the reader does not know which "popular book" is being referenced. The title is an essential piece of information in this sentence.*



# Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

*The title is not an essential piece of information in this sentence.*

Always check punctuation! Since the way you punctuate an appositive tells whether or not information is essential, it can change your meaning.

antecedent →                      ← appositive

**Restrictive:**    The tall ride Jungle Junction is under construction.  
*This says the name is essential for clarity, meaning there are multiple tall rides.*

antecedent →                      ← appositive

**Nonrestrictive:**    The tall ride, Jungle Junction—is under construction.  
*This says the name is **not** essential for clarity, meaning there is only one tall ride.*