

GRADES
9-12

English Language Arts

Home Learning KIT



Vocabulary for Comprehension

Part 1

Read this passage, which contains words in **boldface** that appear in Units 4–6. Then choose the best answer to each question based on what is stated or implied in the passage. You may refer to the passage as often as necessary.

Questions 1–10 are based on the following passage.

- Education has long been a tool to make society more equitable: it is the only way to ensure that all students have the access to knowledge that will make them successful in life. But what is success? Is it simply the **attainment** of the highest personal goals? Is success ensuring that all people reach the **pinnacle** of their careers? Or is success achieved when an educated member is a good citizen, **altruistic** in all encounters? It is a complicated question, but educational sociologists and philosophers provide a way to consider the role of education in individual and societal success.
- Émile Durkheim, a French educational sociologist, was **affiliated** with the functionalist view of education. Functionalism asserts that the role of education is to guarantee that students grow to become citizens and workers who help society thrive. The modern model of public school education is based on this functionalist view. A competing view to the functionalist view is the conflict theory. The conflict theory argues that education promotes social inequality through tracking and standardized testing. The conflict theory stresses that because some schools suffer from a **dearth** of funding and have vast **discrepancies** in their learning conditions, education only serves to reinforce social inequality and **suppress** lower socioeconomic groups.
- Even though they differ, both functionalism and conflict theory operate under the belief that education prepares

- students for a workforce, regardless of the skill level that each student achieves.
- (40) Within these frameworks, how can teachers educate students to participate in a democratic society? Educational philosophers have debated this conundrum for decades, and they have created a theory called democratic education. Democratic education is founded on educational philosophy from pioneering educators like John Dewey, Paulo Friere, and Margaret Mead. These educators asserted the importance of educating students in the values, practices, and beliefs of democratic societies and human rights. Democratic education takes a variety of forms, but many programs empower students to choose from a **finite** set of experiences designed to enhance their learning. These democratic education programs are often **comprised** of classroom time, individual projects, and out-of-school activities that go beyond the traditional curriculum. (One sample of a democratic education project would be a student leading an effort to reduce water usage in the community. In and out of school, this student would work on this project individually and with local agencies that share the same mission.) Thus, the goal of democratic education is to help students move beyond the standard idea of education and become active in their learning. Proponents of democratic education argue that it shapes students beyond the textbook curriculum, transforming them into engaged, informed citizens of the world.
- Just as there is no clear-cut definition of success, there is no straightforward answer for what the role of education

- should be for all students. Unfortunately,
- (80) there is no **panacea** that will make all students come alive in the classroom, ready to engage with the world beyond them. Many democratic education teachers would **assent** that democratic
- (85) education should play a role in educating any student for success in life, regardless of what the definition of success may be.
- What is the purpose of the first paragraph?
 - To define success
 - To interrogate ideas about success
 - To describe how educational philosophers viewed success.
 - To explain the difference between individual and societal success
 - As it is used in line 11, “altruistic” most nearly means
 - unselfish.
 - friendly.
 - intelligent.
 - wise.
 - According to functionalists, the purpose of education is to prepare children to
 - become workers.
 - become citizens
 - help society thrive.
 - take standardized tests.
 - As it is used in line 56, “finite” most nearly means
 - unexpected.
 - determined.
 - hurried.
 - limited.
 - The main purpose of the third paragraph is
 - to compare democratic education to functionalism and conflict theory.
 - to introduce democratic education as a way to educate good citizens.
 - to describe ways that democratic education can function in school.
 - to explore one specific model of democratic education in detail.
 - What do democratic education and functionalism have in common?
 - Both philosophies seek to empower students to engage as citizens.
 - Both philosophies emphasize projects.
 - Both philosophies have informed the modern model of public education.
 - Both philosophies emphasize testing.
 - As it is used in line 59, “comprise” most nearly means
 - to be compared with.
 - to be confused by.
 - to be made up of.
 - to be connected to.
 - It can reasonably be inferred that the author includes lines 61–67 in order to
 - show how democratic education works in all schools.
 - provide a successful example of democratic education in action.
 - describe a project that would be unacceptable in democratic education curricula.
 - suggest that all students in democratic education programs should work with local agencies.
 - According to the passage, the mission of democratic education is to help students
 - explore out-of-school activities.
 - choose from a finite set of experiences.
 - rethink education and be active citizens.
 - investigate the work of John Dewey, Paulo Friere, and Margaret Mead.
 - Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
 - Lines 46–49 (“Democratic. . . Mead”)
 - Lines 53–57 (“Democratic. . . learning”)
 - Lines 57–61 (“These . . . curriculum”)
 - Lines 68–71 (“Thus . . . learning”)

Vocabulary for Comprehension

Part 1

Answer Key

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Vocabulary for Comprehension

Part 2

Read these passages, which contain words in **boldface** that appear in Units 4–6. Then choose the best answer to each question based on what is stated or implied in the passage(s). You may refer to the passages as often as necessary.

Questions 1–10 are based on the following passages.

Passage 1

From behind the controls of a plane's cockpit to behind a car's steering wheel, the Global Positioning System, better known as GPS, has improved our lives.

- (5) Businesses use GPS to track drivers and shipments—thus increasing profitability. From a safety perspective, many people who are not **facile** with maps or directions rely on GPS for navigation and would get lost without it. With a **deft** swipe of a finger before **embarking** on a drive, locations appear on the screen of the device and a tracker directs the car turn by turn until it reaches its destination. Consequently,
- (15) GPS tracking has made driving safer by reducing distractions—drivers no longer need to look at maps.

GPS can be used to locate missing phones and missing pets. Phone number tracking and reverse tracking services can allow people to locate cell phones that have been lost or stolen; this same technology allows parents to find pets wearing a special GPS collar. GPS is also

(25) advantageous in an emergency; before GPS, emergency responders triangulated cell phone towers to estimate someone's location. Since the advent of GPS technology, GPS-enabled devices can

(30) provide an accurate location within several meters. When rescue personnel are dispatched, they can **converge** on the location and handle the emergency.

- (35) As GPS technology has evolved, it has benefited users by increasing efficiency for businesses, making transportation safer, and helping in search and rescue. GPS will continue to be integral to modern life.

Passage 2

- (40) Although GPS provides many benefits, there are drawbacks that come along with the convenience of this technology. Because GPS uses satellite technology to pinpoint the exact location of cellular devices, many argue that it is an invasion of privacy. This issue has even gone to the U.S. Supreme Court. In *United States vs. Jones*, the U.S. Supreme Court heard a case about whether law enforcement agencies can legally use GPS tracking devices to monitor suspects' families.
- (45) Though the Supreme Court ruled in this case that using GPS was unconstitutional, this may not be the ruling in future cases.

- (55) Cell phone service providers have access to consumers' locations at all times, even at **inopportune** times; thus, service providers are becoming increasingly **omniscient** in the modern era. Although consumers may not **accede** to this information being collected, purchasing GPS-enabled cell phones and automobiles is equivalent to granting permission for this information to be made public. Information about where people live and shop is attractive to
- (60) businesses and marketers, and cell phone service providers can sell this information to help companies decide who is in their target demographic and how to advertise to them.

- No one is immune from this invasion of privacy: Even consumers who are **scrupulous** about disabling GPS on their phones can still be located by emergency service providers and cell phone service providers. Consumers would be **remiss** to ignore the drawbacks of GPS technology, despite its many conveniences.
- (75)
- As it is used in line 10, “deft” most nearly means
 - skillful.
 - awkward.
 - elaborate.
 - unnecessary.
 - As it is used in line 32, “converge” most nearly means
 - to take separate routes.
 - to dispatch several vehicles.
 - to move toward one point.
 - to take an indirect path.
 - The main purpose of Passage 1 is to
 - describe how GPS is generally useful for navigation purposes.
 - prove that GPS helps rescue personnel in case of emergencies.
 - argue that GPS is a useful tool for pilots and businesses.
 - explain how GPS technology makes life safer and more efficient.
 - As it is used in line 57, “omniscient” most nearly means
 - aware.
 - all-knowing.
 - efficient.
 - hazardous.
 - The author of Passage 2 includes the case of *United States vs. Jones* in order to
 - illustrate the fact that the U.S. Supreme Court is not hearing current GPS issues.
 - show that GPS privacy invasion is becoming an increasingly serious issue.
 - demonstrate that people overreact to GPS privacy invasion issues.
 - prove that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled in favor of using GPS.
 - As it is used in line 74, “remiss” most nearly means
 - careless.
 - economical.
 - clever.
 - traditional.
 - The authors of Passage 1 and Passage 2 would most likely agree that
 - people rely too heavily on GPS.
 - people are careless with their GPS-enabled devices.
 - GPS technology has been beneficial in several ways.
 - more people need to use GPS devices.
 - Which statement best describes the relationship between the passages?
 - Passage 1 has facts about GPS, and Passage 2 has opinions about GPS.
 - Passage 1 presents problems with GPS, and Passage 2 offers solutions.
 - Passage 1 compares GPS devices, and Passage 2 contrasts them.
 - Passage 1 describes GPS’s benefits, and Passage 2 shows GPS’s negatives.
 - In Passage 1, the author explores several different ways that GPS can be used. In Passage 2, the author mainly focuses on
 - U.S. Supreme Court cases involving GPS technology.
 - GPS technology infringing on privacy.
 - cell phone service providers accessing consumers’ locations.
 - companies using GPS to target their advertising.
 - Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
 - Lines 42–45 (“Because . . . privacy”)
 - Lines 45–50 (“This issue . . . families”)
 - Lines 54–58 (“Cell phone . . . era”)
 - Lines 63–68 (“Information . . . them”)

Vocabulary for Comprehension

Part 2

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Editing Celebrity Tweets

Directions: The following celebrity tweets have one or more grammatical errors. Underline the errors and rewrite the tweets correctly in the spaces provided. In the final box, write your reasons for the changes.

#1 Original Tweet

#1 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Kanye West @kanyewest

If you wanna have dinner with me book a table at the spotted pig when I'm back in NY.

20 Feb

twitter 

Kanye West @kanyewest

20 Feb

Reasons for Edits:

#2 Original Tweet

#2 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Kim Kardashian West @kimkardashian

Armenia we are here! We're so grateful to be here & start this journey of a lifetime! Thank you u everyone who greeted us

8 April

twitter 

Kim Kardashian West @kimkardashian

8 April

Reasons for Edits:

Editing Celebrity Tweets

#3 Original Tweet

#3 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Dez Bryant @dez Bryant

Instead of taking a 5yds slant for 30yds take it 70yds and TD against your Eagles

22 March

twitter 

Dez Bryant @dez Bryant

22 March

Reasons for Edits:

#4 Original Tweet

#4 Edited Tweet

twitter 

LeBron James @lebronjames

My Easter evening consist of this. Water and relaxation!!

5 April

twitter 

LeBron James @lebronjames

5 April

Reasons for Edits:

Editing Celebrity Tweets

#5 Original Tweet

#5 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Charlie Sheen @charliesheen

best lunch date I've had in awhile!

24 March

twitter 

Charlie Sheen @charliesheen

24 March

Reasons for Edits:

#6 Original Tweet


#6 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Demi Moore @justdemi

Thx 4 the support!

5 April

twitter 

Demi Moore @justdemi

5 April

Reasons for Edits:

Editing Celebrity Tweets

#7 Original Tweet

#7 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Lindsay Lohan @lindseylohan

freezing my our way into spring chickens!

5 April

twitter 

Lindsay Lohan @lindseylohan

5 April

Reasons for Edits:

#8 Original Tweet


#8 Edited Tweet

twitter 

Justin Timberlake @jtimberlake

What. Is. Happening?!

7 April

twitter 

Justin Timberlake @jtimberlake

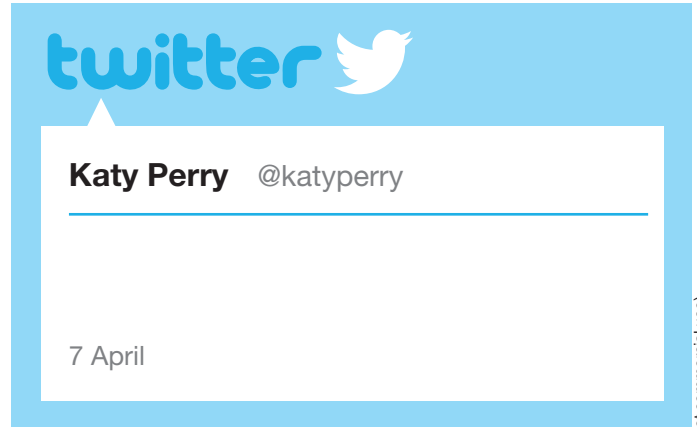
7 April

Reasons for Edits:

Editing Celebrity Tweets

#9 Original Tweet

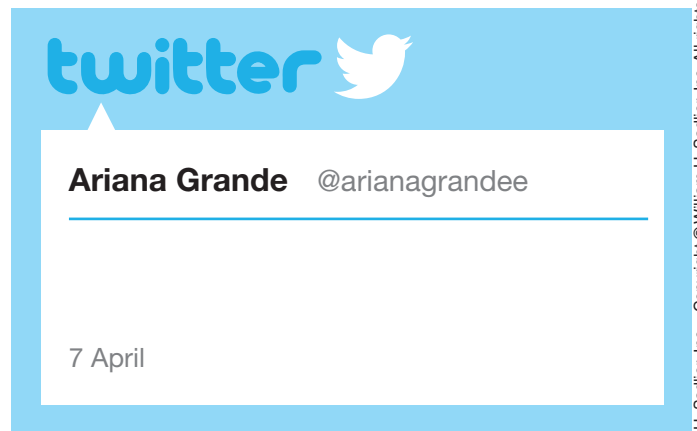
#9 Edited Tweet



Reasons for Edits:

#10 Original Tweet

#10 Edited Tweet



Reasons for Edits:

Editing Celebrity Tweets

Answer Key

The tweets are written correctly and include reasons students could write to justify their changes.

1 Kanye West If you **want to** have dinner with me, book a table at the **Spotted Pig** when I'm back in **New York**.

Reasons: Spelling error (wanna); comma after introductory subordinate clause; capitalization (Spotted Pig), style/format (New York).

2 Kim Kardashian West Armenia, we are here! We're so grateful to be here **and** start this journey of a lifetime! Thank you everyone who greeted us.

Reasons: Comma after introductory word; spell out in standard English; delete intended repeated word; period to end sentence.

3 Dez Bryant Instead of taking a **5-yard** slant for **30 yards**, take it **70 yards for a touchdown** against **the** Eagles.

Reasons: Use numbers for statistics, use hyphens for multiple-word adjectives; add space, spell out yards, add a comma to separate clauses; add space, spell out yards; correct preposition, spell out TD because this is not an acronym; avoid second person; add a period.

4 LeBron James My Easter evening **consists** of the **following:** water and relaxation!!

Reasons: Present tense verb; colon to introduce a list, word choice for clarity, lower case after a colon.

5 Charlie Sheen **B**est lunch date I've had in **a** while!

Reasons: Capitalize the first letter of a sentence; spelling because a while is being used here as a noun so it should be separate.

6 Demi Moore **Thanks for** the support!

Reasons: Spelling; spelling

7 Lindsay Lohan **F**reezing my way into **a** spring chicken!

Reasons: Capitalize the first letter of a sentence; delete unnecessary word for clarity; add a word for parallel structure; delete a letter to match tense.

8 Justin Timberlake What is happening?

Reasons: Needs to be one complete sentence; capital letter only at the beginning; ends with a question mark.

9 Katy Perry Where are all the sparkly dress options for my BITMOJI?

Reasons: *Options* is the subject, so the agreeing verb must be plural; capital letter at the beginning of the sentence (etiquette); question mark to end the question.

10 Ariana Grande I'll give **you** everything.

Reasons: Capitalize the first letter of a sentence; spell out words in standard English; end a statement with a period.

Editing Celebrity Tweets

Directions: Search twitter for celebrity tweets that have one or more grammatical errors. Write the original tweet in the box. Underline the errors and rewrite the tweets correctly in the spaces provided. In the final box, write your reasons for the changes.

Original Tweet	Edited Tweet
----------------	--------------

twitter 

twitter 

Reasons for Edits:

Original Tweet	Edited Tweet
----------------	--------------

twitter 

twitter 

Reasons for Edits:

Parallel Structure Practice

LEARN

To write sentences that have **parallel structure**, use the same grammatical form for two or more similar ideas. Using parallel structure makes it easier for readers to understand your writing.

In the summertime, I love to swim, hike, or relax with a good book. (All verb forms are infinitives)

Be sure to use parallel structure when you compare or contrast ideas.

Not Parallel: *Going to the movies is more fun than to rent video at home.*

Parallel: *Going to the movies is more fun than renting videos at home.*

When you write sentences in which articles (*the, a, an*), prepositions (*on, in, with, etc.*), or conjunctions (*and, or, but, etc.*) precede equal ideas in a series, be sure to be consistent. Either repeat the preceding word or phrase before every idea, or use it only before the first idea in the series.

Parallel: *This book is useful for practicing language skills, learning new vocabulary, and understanding Spanish-speaking cultures.*

Use parallel structure with correlative constructions such as *both ... and, either ... or,* and *not only ... but also*.

Parallel: *By spending a year in Spain, you will not only enjoy living among a different culture, but also being able to travel easily throughout Europe. (both verb phrases are gerunds.)*

Name _____

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

In the paragraph below, underline each example of parallel construction. Hint: Not all sentences include examples of parallel structure.

Archaeologists, historians, artists, and ordinary people can learn a lot by viewing the terra cotta statues. The discovery of the army has helped us better understand Emperor Qin, his military strategy, and his subjects. The complex arrangement of the statues offers clues not only about the strength of Qin's empire on Earth, but also about his views of the afterlife. The detail of each unique statue is painstakingly realistic. Such detail offers observers information about the warriors' uniforms, their weapons, and even their physical features; in addition, the artistry of the statues reveals the techniques of the sculptors, bronze-workers, and painters of the period.

Parallel Structure Independent Practice Answer Key

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

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Vocabulary Paint Chips Activity

SIMILAR OR CONTRASTING WORDS

Directions: Choose four vocabulary words that you have a hard time remembering or that you can't seem to use appropriately in writing. On the paint chips below, write one of the four vocabulary words on the darkest shade (or square) on each paint swatch. Then, using a thesaurus, online or in print, choose three challenging words that are similar or have the opposite meaning. Write these three words on the other paint colors on the swatch. In the white spaces next to the paint colors, write the definition of each word and a sentence that uses the word in context.

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VOCABULARY LADDER

VOCAB ROCKS

Word 1 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Word 2 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 1 _____
 Word 2 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 1 _____
 Word 2 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 1 _____
 Word 2 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 1 _____
 Word 2 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

I LOVE LEXICON

Word 3 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Word 4 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 3 _____
 Word 4 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 3 _____
 Word 4 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 3 _____
 Word 4 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

WORDS ARE POWER

Word 5 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Word 6 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 5 _____
 Word 6 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 5 _____
 Word 6 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

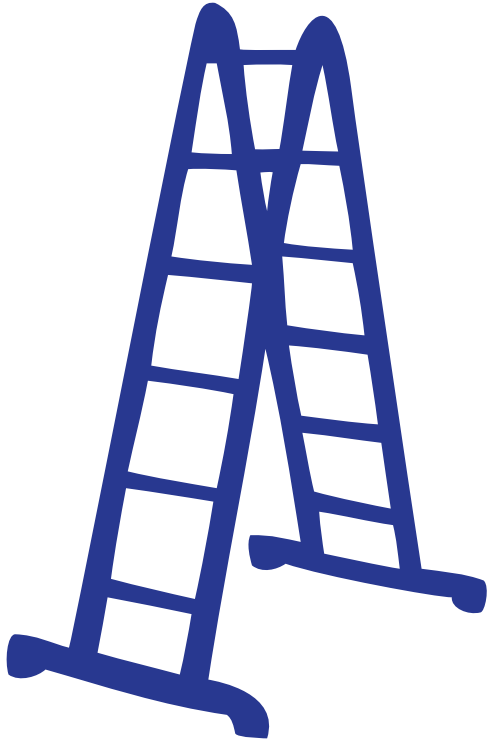
I'M A WORDSMITH

Word 7 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Word 8 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

Word 7 _____
 Word 8 _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____

WORD NERD

Word 9 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Word 10 _____
 Synonyms: _____
 Here is a sentence with them both: _____



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Movie Review

Grammar & Writing Activity



The *Movie Review* assignment is a great way to combine writing and grammar, adding relevance to learning and tapping into students' interests.

Directions

Students write a 250-word (age/grade appropriate) movie review with a focus on commas.

Students could be assessed on the following three common comma rules:

1. Use a comma to set off a dependent clause from an independent clause.
2. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction, joining two complete sentences.
3. Use a comma or commas, to set off interrupters.

Challenge

Have students write a movie review about a movie that was made from a book. In their review, they should compare and contrast the book with the movie. Teachers could assess on the comma rules.

Answer Key

On **May 8, 1945** millions of people around the globe **took** to the streets to celebrate the World War II surrender of Germany on what came to be known as Victory in Europe Day, or V-E Day. At 2:41 a.m. local time the previous day, representatives from the victorious Allied nations **met** with German officials in Reims, France, to sign the official surrender documents but in accordance with an earlier agreement between leaders in the United States Soviet Union and United Kingdom, the news of the end of hostilities on the continent **was** withheld for **24** hours and announced simultaneously on the 8th. In London, spotlights in the form of a "V" for victory were turned on over St. Paul's Cathedral—although it took some time to get them working again after nearly six years of wartime blackouts. In the United States a newly sworn-in president got a very unusual birthday present. And in the Soviet Union, a powerful leader was already planning his next, post-war moves. Millions had been killed, rationing **continued** and there **was** still **three** months of deadly fighting ahead, but for a few hours, the world stopped to commemorate and celebrate.



Commas Usage Practice

Passage from *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Directions: The paragraph below is missing some commas. As you read it, add the missing commas back in to make this text more readable.

HINT: Remember the following comma rules.

- Use a comma to separate items in a list or series.
 - For example: I want **apples, kiwi, and grapes** in the fruit salad.
I'm taking **science, math, and art** this semester.
- Use a comma to separate coordinate adjectives.
 - For example: I really like this **old, green** shirt.
John's is the **new, red** bike.
- Use commas to set off nonrestrictive/parenthetical elements (or things that could be removed from a sentence without changing the meaning).
 - For example: Pizza, **which is my favorite food**, is on the menu today at school.
Emily, **who is my cousin**, will be here today.
- Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence.
 - For example: I like to play soccer, **and** so does my brother.
My mom works at the school, **but** my aunt works at the hospital.
- Use a comma to separate an introductory word or phrase from the rest of the sentence.
 - For example: Well, I like the blue shirt best.
Yes, I would like a cookie!
- Put a comma before and after a piece of dialogue (the words characters say).
 - For example: The dog said, "I like treats!"
When the words (dialogue) come at the end of the sentence, put the comma outside of the quotation marks.
 - For example: "Me too," replied the cat.
When the words (dialogue) come at the beginning of the sentence, put the comma inside of the quotation marks.

A Scandal In Bohemia

“By the way since you are interested in these little problems and since you are good enough to chronicle one or two of my trifling experiences you may be interested in this.” He threw over a sheet of thick pink-tinted notepaper which had been lying open upon the table. “It came by the last post” said he. “Read it aloud.”

The note was undated and without either signature or address.

“There will call upon you to-night at a quarter to eight o’clock” it said “a gentleman who desires to consult you upon a matter of the very deepest moment. Your recent services to one of the royal houses of Europe have shown that you are one who may safely be trusted with matters which are of an importance that can hardly be exaggerated. This account of you we have from all quarters received. Be in your chamber then at that hour and do not take it amiss if your visitor wear a mask.”

“This is indeed a mystery” I remarked. “What do you imagine that it means?”

“I have no data yet. It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data. Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories instead of theories to suit facts. But the note itself. What do you deduce from it?”

I carefully examined the writing and the paper upon which it was written.

“The man who wrote it was presumably well-to-do” I remarked endeavoring to imitate my companion’s processes. “Such paper could not be bought under half a crown a packet. It is peculiarly strong and stiff.”

“Peculiar—that is the very word” said Holmes. “It is not an English paper at all. Hold it up to the light.”

I did so and saw a large “E” with a small “g” a “P” and a large “G” with a small “t” woven into the texture of the paper.

“What do you make of that?” asked Holmes.

“The name of the maker no doubt; or his monogram rather.”

“Not at all. The ‘G’ with the small ‘t’ stands for ‘Gesellschaft’ which is the German for ‘Company.’ It is a customary contraction like our ‘Co.’ ‘P’ of course stands for ‘Papier.’ Now for the ‘Eg.’ Let us glance at our Continental Gazetteer.” He took down a heavy brown volume from his shelves. “Eglow Eglonitz—here we are Egria. It is in a German-speaking country—in Bohemia not far from Carlsbad. ‘Remarkable as being the scene of the death of Wallenstein and for its numerous glass-factories and paper-mills.’ Ha ha my boy what do you make of that?” His eyes sparkled . . .



Commas Usage Practice

Passage from *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

A Scandal In Bohemia

"By the way, since you are interested in these little problems, and since you are good enough to chronicle one or two of my trifling experiences, you may be interested in this." He threw over a sheet of thick, pink-tinted notepaper which had been lying open upon the table. "It came by the last post," said he. "Read it aloud."

The note was undated and without either signature or address.

"There will call upon you to-night, at a quarter to eight o'clock," it said, "a gentleman who desires to consult you upon a matter of the very deepest moment. Your recent services to one of the royal houses of Europe have shown that you are one who may safely be trusted with matters, which are of an importance that can hardly be exaggerated. This account of you we have from all quarters received. Be in your chamber then at that hour, and do not take it amiss if your visitor wear a mask."

"This is indeed a mystery," I remarked. "What do you imagine that it means?"

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