

Review Exercises on Appositives

Note to students: These exercises are meant to help you review concepts that you have already learned. Before beginning these exercises, you should have learned how to combine sentences and how to use appositives. If you are not already familiar with these concepts, please check with your instructor. You may find a short review of **Tutorial 11: Noun Phrase Appositives**.

Sentence Combining: Part One

Combine the short sentences below into one complete sentence by using an appositive phrase. **Be sure to write a complete sentence** and **underline** the appositive phrase. You may print these exercises, or you may write the complete sentence on a separate sheet of paper.

Example:

- a. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in 1756.
- b. Mozart is one of the most famous composers of classical music.

Solution: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, one of the most famous composers of classical music, was born in 1756.

You must write the complete sentence to receive credit for doing the exercises.

1. a. Mozart's father taught him to play several instruments by the age of five.
- b. The instruments included the organ, the violin, and the harpsichord.

Solution:

2. a. Mozart's father presented both Mozart and his older sister in concerts throughout Europe.
- b. Mozart's father was Leopold.
- c. Mozart's older sister was Marianne.

Solution:

3. a. By the age of 13, Mozart had already composed several major pieces of music.

b. The music included symphonies, concertos, sonatas, and two short operas.

Solution:

4. a. Many people could not believe that a child such as Mozart could be so talented as a musician and composer, so they often gave him tests.

b. The tests included playing blindfolded, competing with much older musicians, and playing long pieces entirely from memory.

Solution:

5. a. Mozart became so famous that by the age of 13 he had played for some of the most powerful people in Europe and had received expensive presents.

b. The powerful people included Pope Clement XIV, the kings and queens of both France and England, and the empress of Austria.

c. The expensive presents were pianos, gold, and clothing.

Solution:

6. a. In 1786 and 1787, Mozart composed two of his most famous operas.

b. One opera is *The Marriage of Figaro*.

c. *The Marriage of Figaro* is a light, comic work.

d. Another opera is *Don Giovanni*.

e. *Don Giovanni* is a darker, more serious composition.

Solution:

7. a. *The Marriage of Figaro* was not popular with some audiences, but it was extremely successful in Prague.

b. The audiences that *The Marriage of Figaro* was not popular with included those in Vienna.

c. Vienna was a city where Mozart had expected to triumph.

d. Prague was a city where he received the commission to write *Don Giovanni*.

Solution:

8. a. *Don Giovanni* was not nearly as popular with audiences in Mozart's lifetime, but is now regarded as one of the greatest operas ever written.

b. *Don Giovanni* is a version of the story of Don Juan.

c. Don Juan is a shameless seducer of women.

Solution:

9. a. Though he was no longer as famous as he had been and often struggled to make ends meet, Mozart continued to compose works now regarded as masterpieces.

b. The works now regarded as masterpieces include his last three symphonies.

c. His last three symphonies were number 39 in E flat, number 40 in G minor, and number 41 in C.

d. Number 41 in C is also called the "Jupiter Symphony."

Solution:

- 10. a. Mozart composed two major works in the final months of his life.
- b. The final works include *The Magic Flute* and a requiem mass for the dead.
- c. *The Magic Flute* is a light opera, now regarded as one of his greatest works.
- d. The requiem mass for the dead is a work that Mozart was not able to finish.

Solution:

(Note: Facts for this exercise were drawn from Maynard Solomon's *Mozart: A Life*, and from *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, 6th edition.)

Sentence Combining: Part Two

- 1. Once there were three evil robbers.
 - One robber was Vera.
 - One robber was Chuck.
 - One robber was Dave.

- 2. One Holy Day, when they were supposed to go to Mass, Vera suggested that they go get drunk.
 - The Holy Day was Easter Sunday.
 - Vera was a serious alcoholic.

3. As they sat down at the bar, they were approached by a young man named Paul.

The bar was Ye Olde Sin Den.

The young man was a foul-smelling fellow.

4. Paul told them their friend had been killed by a thief.

Their friend was Ringo.

Ringo was a notorious gambler.

Ringo was a womanizer.

The thief was a man named Mr. Death.

5. Dave cried, "He that slays so many shall be slain! We will slay this thief!"

Dave was the most drunk of the three.

The thief was Mr. Death.

6. Inspired by Dave's words, the three robbers stumbled up the main road.

The main road was Highway 51.

The main road was the last they would ever walk.

7. At an old bridge, they met a man who seemed to be a thousand years old.

The old bridge was named "The Bridge Over Troubled Waters."

The man was a mysterious character.

8. With breath that smelled like many bottles of cheap booze, Chuck yelled at the man, demanding to know where they could find Mr. Death.

Chuck's breath smelled like Schlitz.

Chuck's breath smelled like Pabst.

Chuck's breath smelled like Night Train. (**Note:** Use dashes to set off these phrases.)

9. The man replied "Mr. Death is waiting for you at the top of the hill. May God save your souls."

Death is the man you are seeking.

God is our Heavenly Savior.

10. At the top of the hill, they did not find what they were seeking, but they did find something much more exciting.

What they were seeking was Mr. Death.

What they found was three bags of gold that made them forget all about Death.

11. Two of the robbers decided to guard the gold while Vera went to town to get some celebration supplies.

Two of the robbers were Chuck and Dave.

Vera was the loser in a game of straws.

The celebration supplies were three more bottles of Night Train.

12. When she got to town, Vera dropped by Ye Olde Apothecary to pick up a special ingredient that she added to Chuck and Dave's Night Train.

Vera was an evil genius.

Ye Olde Apothecary was the neighborhood drug store.

The special ingredient was industrial strength rat poison.

The industrial strength rat poison was strong enough to kill ten men.

13. But Chuck and Dave had come up with a plan of their own and, when Vera returned, met her with several nasty weapons.

The plan of their own was a devilish design.

The nasty weapons were knives, swords, and clubs.

14. To celebrate how they eliminated Vera, Chuck and Dave gulped down all of the booze she had brought.

Chuck and Dave were the dimwitted duo.

The booze she had brought was Night Train, with a funny aftertaste.

15. All three robbers had met Mr. Death.

Mr. Death is a man we will all meet someday.

(Note: The story above was shamelessly stolen from Geoffrey Chaucer's "The Pardoner's Tale.")

Part Three: Review Activity: On a separate sheet of paper, write **10 original sentences** with appositives. In each sentence, underline the appositive phrase. You should also try to use different methods to set the appositive off from the rest of the sentence: colons, dashes, commas.