



We are St Cuthbert's



St Cuthbert's
Catholic High School

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Punctuation Practice

Commas 2



Commas are tiny, but they are VERY important!

They have a range of uses which can be tricky to get right. Over the next two weeks, we will focus on the different ways in which we use commas.

This week – separating extra information.

Commas in Clauses

Commas separate extra information

Use a pair of commas to separate extra information in the middle of a sentence:

Amy and Ryan, who love films, go to the cinema twice a month.

These commas separate the extra information.
The extra information is called the subordinate clause.

Commas in Clauses

Commas separate extra information

You can check you've used commas correctly if you can remove the information inside the pair of commas and the sentence still makes sense:

The Christian Holy Week, which usually falls in March or April, is the final week of Lent. This is the extra information – if you remove it, the sentence should still make sense.



The Christian Holy Week is the final week of Lent.

This makes sense, so the commas were used correctly.

Commas in Clauses

The extra information can begin or end a sentence

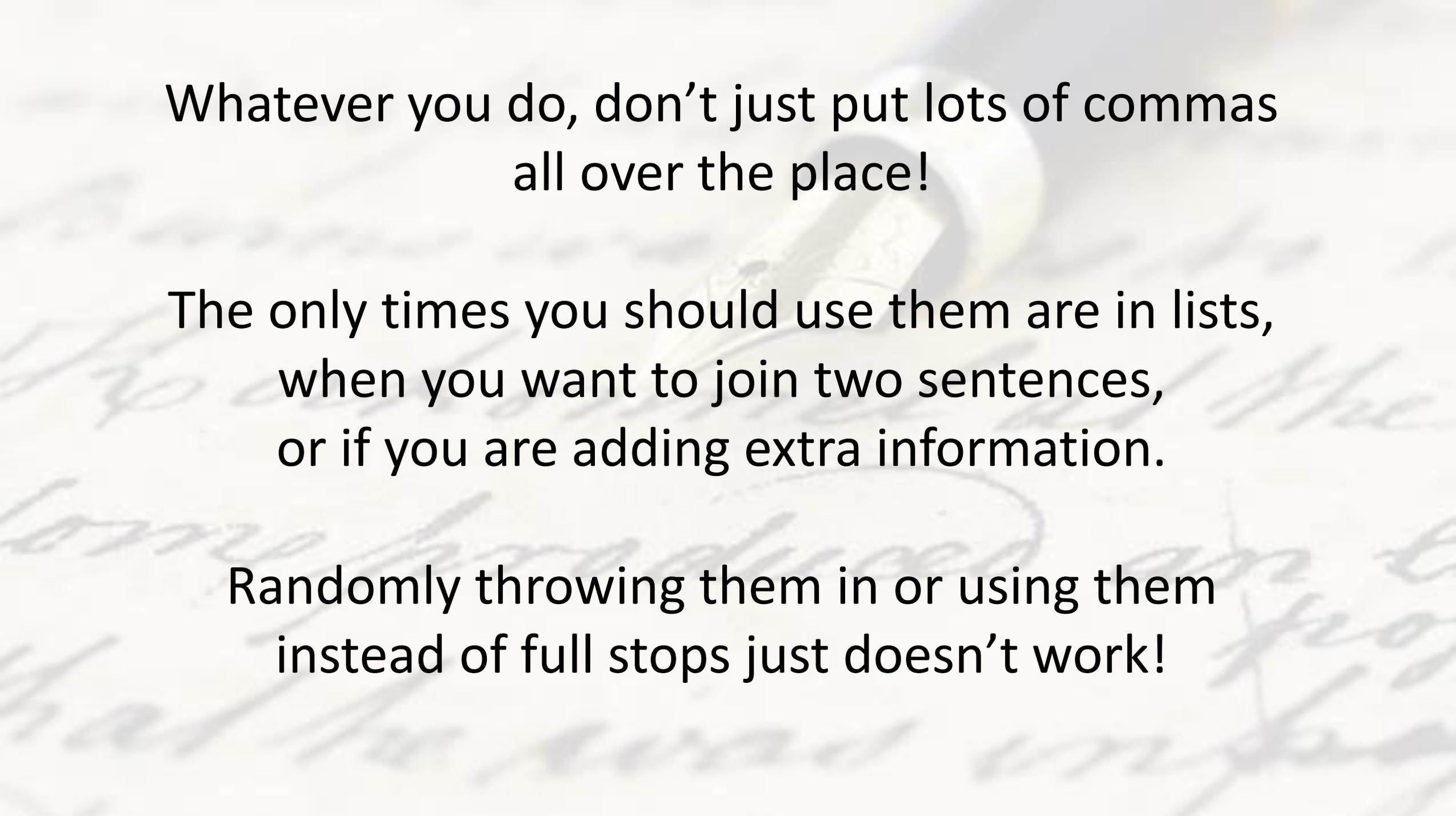
If the extra information at the start or end of a sentence, you will still need to use a comma. In this case you will need a single one rather than a pair.

When they saw the rain had stopped, they went outside to play football.

This is the extra information , so it goes before a comma.

The rain was relentless, which meant the match had to be cancelled.

This time, the extra bit is at the end, so it comes after a comma.



Whatever you do, don't just put lots of commas
all over the place!

The only times you should use them are in lists,
when you want to join two sentences,
or if you are adding extra information.

Randomly throwing them in or using them
instead of full stops just doesn't work!

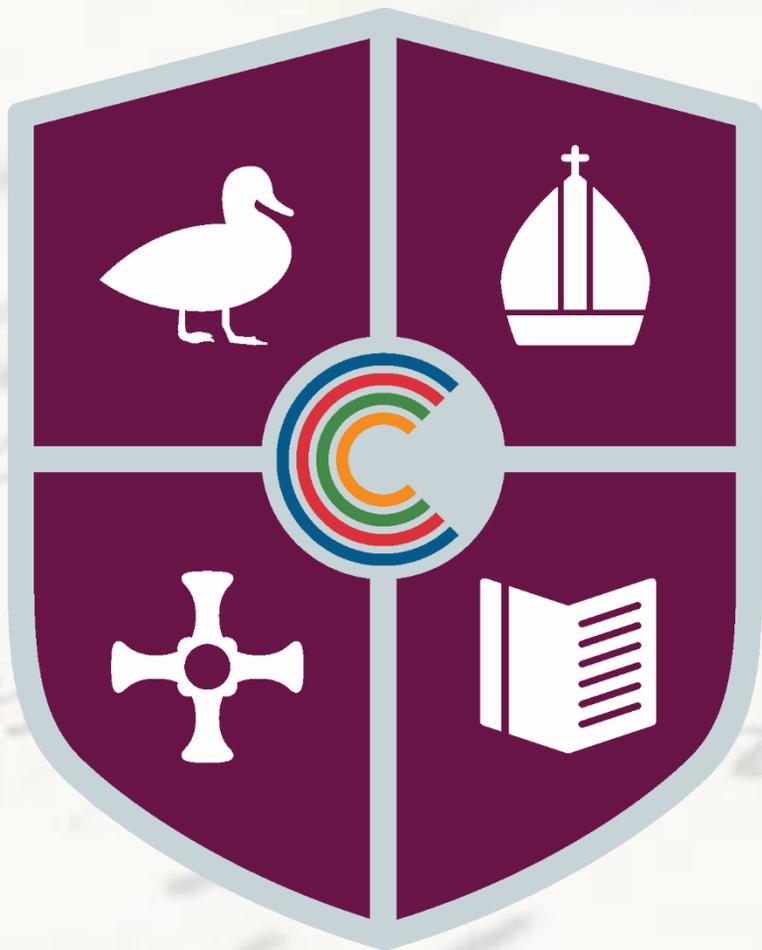


**KEEP
CALM**

AND

REMEMBER YOUR

PUNCTUATION



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