**ACT ENGLISH: PUNCTUATION**

1. **Apostrophes**
* **Three things to know about apostrophes**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Plurals**
	+ A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is more than one of something. Plurals alone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have apostrophes
		- Ex: There are several famous **curses** in **sports**.
* **Possessives**
	+ Possessive nouns \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. If a noun is singular, add \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to show possession.
		- Ex: The single **goat’s** influence created a sports myth.
* **Plural-Possessives**
	+ If a noun is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, add an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
		- Ex: The **fans’** refusal to allow the goat into the stadium caused an outrage
		- Exception: when the plural form of a noun \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, add\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the noun.
			* Ex: The **children’s** curiosity about the goat was great.
* **Contractions**
	+ Commonly confused contractions:
		- YOUR= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- YOU’RE = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
			* *Your allegiance to the Cubs shows that you’re a loyal fan.*
		- ITS= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- IT’s= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
			* *It’s obvious that the legend has taken on a life of its own.*
		- THEIR = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- THEY’RE = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
			* *Fans show their loyalty by the fact that they’re always at the games.*
	+ Practice:
		- The **World Series games** between the Cubs and the Tigers spawned the legend of the billy goat.
			* Is the underlined portion:
				+ A. plural?
				+ B. possessive?
				+ C. plural-possessive?
1. **Commas**
* **Top 4 Rules**
	+ **1.**
	+ **2.**
	+ **3.**
	+ **4.**
* **Items in a Series**
	+ Use commas to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ If the order of 2 or more adjectives can be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ use a comma.
	+ If the order of 2 or more adjectives \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ use a comma.
* **Introductory Phrases**
	+ Introductory phrases are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ gets EXTRA PUNCTUATION.
	+ An introductory phrase is separate from the main part of a sentence; the complete thought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
		- Example**:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Interruptions**
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that interrupt the complete thought of the sentences should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (unless they are prepositional phrases).
		- Remember: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
			* Example: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Joining Independent Clauses**
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are complete thoughts.
	+ When two or more complete thoughts are combined with one sentence, they are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
	+ When these thoughts are combined with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conjunction (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_), we should add a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before the conjunction.
	+ Make sure that the half of the sentence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the conjunction and the half of the sentence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the conjunction are both complete thoughts that make sense on their own.
		- Example: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
1. **Semicolons**
* Semicolons join \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
	+ These two thoughts should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ capitalize the word after the semicolon (unless it is a proper noun).
	+ Check that half of the sentence before the semicolon and the half of the sentence after the semicolon are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Practice:
	+ 50 Cent is best known for his rap career what many fans may not realize, though, is that he made much of his fortune in the stock market.
		- A. NO CHANGE
		- B. rap career what many fans may not realize;
		- C. rap career; What many fans may not realize,
		- D. rap career; what many fans may not realize