Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

INTERRUPTERS: APPOSITIVES

An **appositive** explains the noun or pronoun it follows and names the same person or thing. When you set off an appositive, include with it all words that modify it.

The spider monkey, a scrawny **animal** with long arms and legs, is my favorite type of monkey.

I have just finished reading *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Harper Lee’s brilliant **novel** about the loss of innocence.

Use commas to set off appositives preceded by **or**.

The avocado, **or** alligator **pear**, is a fairly recent addition to the American diet.

Remember, as with nonrestrictive/nonessential phrases/clauses, use commas if the appositive does not restrict or redefine its noun.

Example:

Danielle’s obsessive boyfriend, Ezra, tracks her every move via cell phone like a stalker.

**Danielle has only one boyfriend: Ezra.**

Danielle’s obsessive boyfriend Ezra tracks her every move via cell phone like a stalker.

**Danielle has more than one obsessive boyfriend. Ezra is one of many.**

If I have only one brother, which do I choose?

My brother **Rick** enjoys long walks on the beach and polka dots.

My brother, **Rick,** enjoys long walks on the beach and polka dots.

Read the following sentences. Add commas to separate the appositives if necessary.

1. My best friend Michela is leaving for Italy in a few weeks.
2. After dinner we had dessert something we hadn’t had in a long time.
3. Megan our lacrosse team’s leading scorer will be out for the rest of the season.
4. Mr. Britton my favorite teacher never gives homework over the weekend.
5. The author Harper Lee published only one novel in her lifetime.
6. The poem “I heard a fly buzz when I died” is one of Emily Dickinson’s best.
7. The success of Harper Lee’s novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* is still relevant today, seeing how it is on Oprah’s Book Club List a great honor.
8. Mr. Dougherty a ghetto-fabulous Little Debbie junkie has a stash of oatmeal cream pies and nutty wafers in his closet.

Now try to apply the concept by writing with appositives: Rewrite the following sentences by combining Sentence B into Sentence A using an appositive.

Example:

Original: a. I hate coming to 4th period.

b. Mr. Marsh’s class is the most boring class ever.

Appositive: I hate coming to 4th period, the most boring class ever.

1. a. The Mohawk is coming back in style.

b. It was a popular hairstyle for punk rockers in the ‘80s

2. a. Kayci’s rock cycle project for Earth Science sadly was the best in class.

b. She glued together globs of acorns and Apple Jacks onto a pizza box

3. a. At Thomas’s end-of-the-semester party, Makayla introduced her boyfriend to her friends.

b. He was a thumbless hobo with a distinct bologna smell

4. a. Justina hated Mr. Marsh.

b. He is a cruel, belligerent dictator and soulless grammar nerd

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

INTERRUPTERS: APPOSITIVES: ANSWERS

An **appositive** explains the noun or pronoun it follows and names the same person or thing. When you set off an appositive, include with it all words that modify it.

The spider monkey, a scrawny **animal** with long arms and legs, is my favorite type of monkey.

I have just finished reading *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Harper Lee’s brilliant **novel** about the loss of innocence.

Use commas to set off appositives preceded by **or**.

The avocado, **or** alligator **pear**, is a fairly recent addition to the American diet.

Remember, as with nonrestrictive/nonessential phrases/clauses, use commas if the appositive does not restrict or redefine its noun.

Example:

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**Danielle has only one boyfriend: Ezra.**

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**Danielle has more than one obsessive boyfriend. Ezra is one of many.**

If I have only one brother, which do I choose?

My brother **Rick** enjoys long walks on the beach and polka dots.

My brother, **Rick,** enjoys long walks on the beach and polka dots.

Read the following sentences. Add commas to separate the appositives if necessary.

1. My best friend, Michela, is leaving for Italy in a few weeks.
2. After dinner we had dessert, something we hadn’t had in a long time.
3. Megan, our lacrosse team’s leading scorer, will be out for the rest of the season. (only Megan on the team)
4. Mr. Britton, my favorite teacher, never gives homework over the weekend.
5. The author Harper Lee published only one novel in her lifetime. (\* no longer true!)
6. The poem “I heard a fly buzz when I died” is one of Emily Dickinson’s best.
7. The success of Harper Lee’s novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird* , is still relevant today, seeing how it is on Oprah’s Book Club List, a great honor. (if we assume only one novel for Lee)
8. Mr. Dougherty, a ghetto-fabulous Little Debbie junkie, has a stash of oatmeal cream pies and nutty wafers in his closet.

Now try to apply the concept by writing with appositives: Rewrite the following sentences by combining Sentence B into Sentence A using an appositive.

Example:

Original: a. I hate coming to 4th period.

b. Mr. Marsh’s class is the most boring class ever.

Appositive: I hate coming to 4th period, the most boring class ever.

1. a. The Mohawk, a popular hairstyle for punk rockers in the ‘80s, is coming back in style.

~~b. It was~~

2. a. Kayci’s rock cycle project, globs of acorns and Apple Jacks onto a pizza box, for Earth Science sadly was the best in class.

b. ~~She glued together~~.

3. a. At Thomas’s end-of-the-semester party, Makayla introduced her boyfriend, a thumbless hobo with a distinct bologna smell, to her friends.

b. He was.

4. a. Justina hated Mr. Marsh, a cruel, belligerent dictator and soulless grammar nerd.

b. He is.