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

Introductory Phrases: Prepositional

Rule #1: If a sentence begins with a short prepositional phrase, no comma is necessary.

Ex: **By noon** we were exhausted.

Ex: **After Mr. Marsh’s class** we’ll be ready for the SAT.

Rule #2: A comma may be necessary to prevent misreading where the prepositional phrase ends and where the subject begins.

Ex: **During the winter**, vacation days are especially satisfying.

Ex: **In the middle of the night**, winds from the north brought subzero temperatures to Lampeter Fair week.

Rule #3: If a sentence begins with a long prepositional phrase or with a string of prepositional phrase, a comma is necessary.

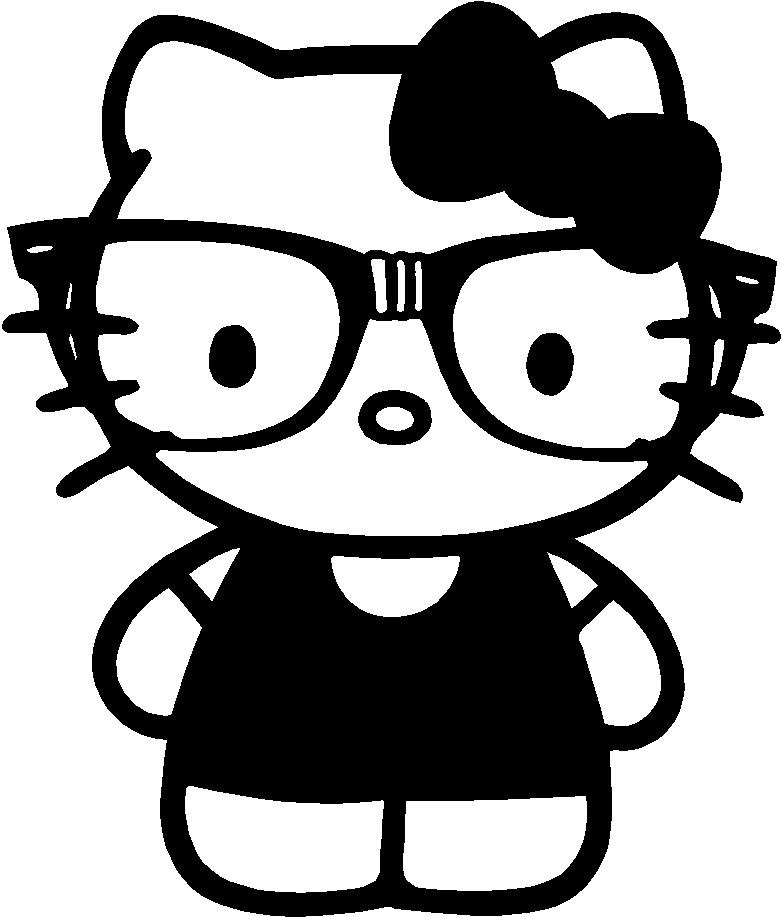
Ex: **At the end of a long and exhausting day at school**, we all collapsed.

Ex: **With a super-sized spicy Slim Jim**, the bandit threatened the cashier at the vegan café and robbed her of a buck-forty-five.

Rule #4: An exception: With a prepositional phrase at the beginning of an inverted sentence, do not add a comma.

Ex: **In the banana cream pie** were the incriminating fingerprints of Carissa.

Read the following sentences with introductory prepositional phrases and add commas based upon the rules listed above.

1. Through prayer Tim was able to pass his challenging map coloring test in American Cultures.
2. After a breakfast of a full pot of coffee and a box of Pop Tarts Maddy was sufficiently prepared for her soccer game.
3. Except for L-S students in most other schools are allowed to “boo” and heckle their teachers during class.
4. Within Courtney’s seemingly disorganized backpack is a highly sophisticated system of order that only she can understand.
5. In lieu of grades Mr. Britton will now be giving out hugs; for example, an A is now worth 5 hugs. (It’s kind of creepy.)
6. As an avid Food Network fan Arooba often would experiment with strange cupcake recipes; her peanut butter and sweet pickle cupcake did not win much praise.
7. Since the beginning of the school year Anthony has been trying to figure out how to convince his bus driver to let him take the “cheese wagon” for a joy ride.
8. Thanks to the challenge of Mr. Marsh’s class Madelyn is not only so much more intelligent but also so much more stressed.
9. Concerning the recent change to an all vegan menu in the cafeteria the student body has protested by painting their faces in war paint and burning the lunch tables.
10. Across from Mr. Marsh’s house in Ephrata is a grocery store that tempts him with fresh donuts every morning.
11. Unlike you I find Josh’s obsession with Hello Kitty™ stickers to be disturbing.
12. Before the rain storm clouds appeared on the horizon and threatened to ruin Momo’s afternoon tea with the Fairy Council.

Now try writing three sentences of your own using introductory prepositional phrases.

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Introductory Phrases: Prepositional: ANSWERS

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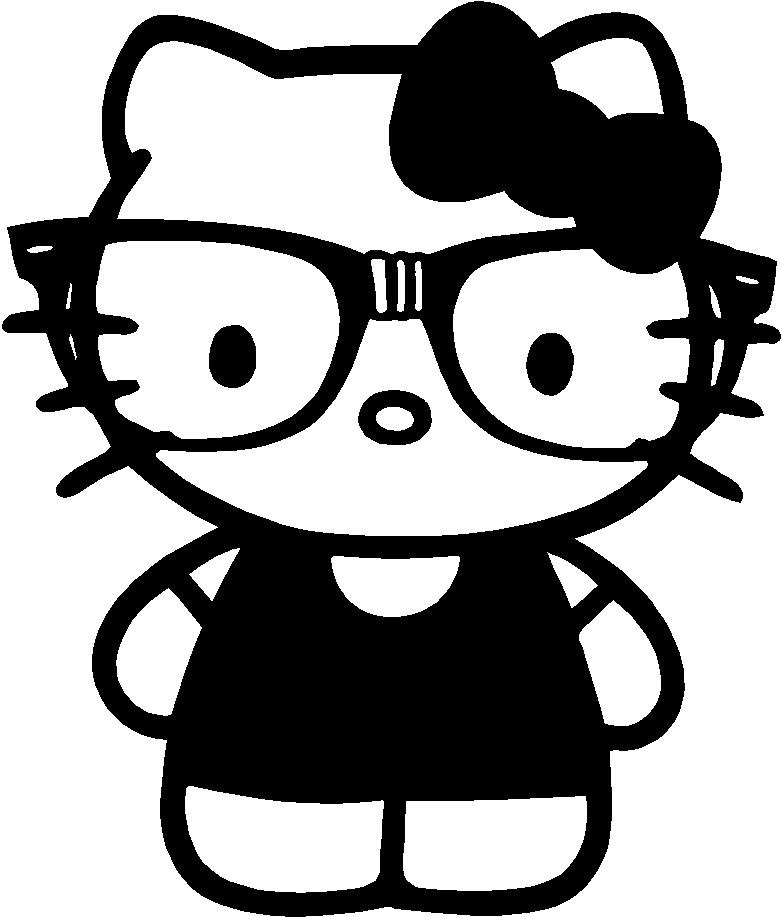
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