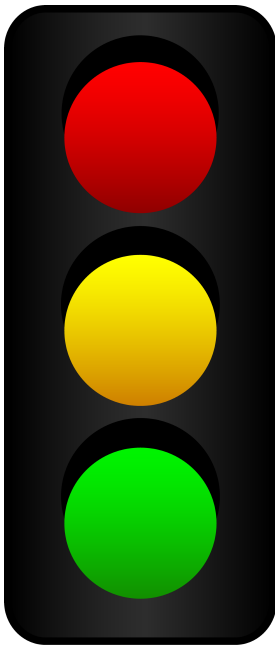


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT: **Language** Test  
(4 uses of **commas** on the SAT)

### SAT Writing & Language Test:

- Step #1:** Always determine what is **DIFFERENT** (changing) in the answer choices. THAT is the concept on which you are being tested.
  - If what you're being tested on is **punctuation that links ideas (within-sentence punctuation)**, use the **vertical line test** and process of elimination.
  - If what you're being tested on is the **use of commas**, determine which of the 4 uses and then use process of elimination.



### REVIEW:

draw **STOP** punctuation

List FANBOYS here: \_\_\_\_\_

draw **HALF-STOP** punctuation

draw **GO** punctuation

**STOP** punctuation can \_\_\_\_\_

**HALF STOP** punctuation is \_\_\_\_\_

**GO** punctuation links anything \_\_\_\_\_

### On the SAT, there are only 4 reasons to use a **COMMA**:

1. in **STOP** punctuation with one of the **FANBOYS**
2. in **GO** punctuation, to separate anything except 2 complete ideas
3. in a \_\_\_\_\_
4. in a sentence containing \_\_\_\_\_ information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT: **Language** Test  
(4 uses of **commas** on the SAT)

4

**Examples 4-5:**

Jonah, everyone seemed fairly certain, was going to get into one of those schools.

- A.) NO CHANGE
- B.) Jonah everyone seemed fairly certain
- C.) Jonah, everyone seemed fairly certain
- D.) Jonah everyone seemed fairly certain,

- Circle what's **different** in answer choices?
- If punctuation lines up, do **vertical line test**. (Read up to / after line. Complete?)
- If punctuation doesn't line up...
  - Commas:**
    - Is it **STOP** + fanboy?
    - Is it **GO** (connecting something other than 2 complete ideas?)
    - Is it a list of 3 or more things?
    - Is there **non-essential information**? (If so, it needs to be separated by commas.)

**ESSENTIAL or NON-ESSENTIAL?**

(**E**ssential = **E**liminate commas / **N**on-essential = **N**eed commas)

**Essential information** doesn't need commas because it's part OF the meaning of the sentence.  
**Non-essential** information could be omitted from the sentence (it's EXTRA info) and is therefore separated by commas (to show it's extra).

The student with the best GPA will be admitted to the best college. \_\_\_\_\_  
Edward wants to go to Pomona College which is a really good school. \_\_\_\_\_  
The car that was painted red drove off at a hundred miles an hour. \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Chestnutt who wrote a lot of great stories was also a lawyer. \_\_\_\_\_  
Philadelphia Flyers goalie Steve Mason is an under appreciated player. \_\_\_\_\_

5 Everyone hoped, he would get in, after his brother and two sisters had gone to their first-choice schools.

- A.) NO CHANGE
- B.) hoped, he would get in, after his brother, and two sisters had
- C.) hoped, he would get in after his brother, and, two sisters had
- D.) hoped he would get in after his brother and two sisters had