

Grammar in Context

USE APPOSITIVE PHRASES

An **appositive** is a noun or pronoun that identifies or renames another noun or pronoun. An **appositive phrase** is made up of an appositive and its modifiers. You can make your writing more clear by using an appositive or appositive phrase to combine two or more sentences into one. Place commas before and after an appositive phrase when it adds extra, nonessential information about the noun or pronoun that precedes it.

Directions: For each numbered item, combine the sentences by making the second sentence into an appositive phrase. One item will have two appositive phrases.

1. Jimmy falls in love with Annabel Adams. She is the banker's daughter.

Jimmy falls in love with Annabel Adams, the banker's daughter.

2. May shuts Agatha in the vault. Agatha is May's little sister.

May shuts Agatha, her little sister, in the vault.

OR

May shuts her little sister Agatha in the vault.

3. Jimmy designed his own safecracking tools. They are the best in the business.

Jimmy designed his own safecracking tools, the best in the business.

4. Ben Price lets Jimmy go. Ben Price is an eminent detective.

Ben Price, the eminent detective, lets Jimmy go.

5. Ralph D. Spencer is really Jimmy Valentine. Ralph is a shoe salesman. Jimmy is a thief.

Ralph D. Spencer, the shoe salesman, is really Jimmy Valentine, the thief.