

Name: _____

Date: _____

PREPOSITIONS: PRACTICE #3 –PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES & POSITIONING

Grammar Review #1

MOVING PREPOSITIONS TO THE BEGINNING OF SENTENCES CAN CREATE STRUCTURAL VARIETY!

- If you begin a sentence with a long prepositional phrase (four words or more), follow the phrase with a COMMA.
 - EXAMPLE: After many long and comprehensive tests, doctors discovered that Buzzy is allergic to tennis ball fuzz.
- If a sentence begins with two or more prepositional phrases, follow only the last phrase in the series with a COMMA.
 - WRONG = On rainy days, in July and August, flies hide in the wings of magpies to stay dry.
 - RIGHT = On rainy days in July and August, flies hide in the wings of magpies to stay dry.
- Sometimes you might choose, simply for clarity, to put a comma after a short prepositional phrase that begins a sentence.
 - In the dark, Earl’s shark-shaped birthmark sparkles.
 - In 1992, 743 cows simultaneously refused to moo.

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Directions: In the sentences below, first underline each prepositional phrase and circle the object of preposition. Then, try changing each sentence by moving a prepositional phrase(s) to the beginning. Write your new sentence on the line. Remember to add a comma where necessary!

1. Lizzy's hissing lizard hides in her frizzy hair on drizzly days.

2. Cherrie won the big hair contest at the county fair in February.

3. Uncle Flake was flattened by a giant falling finch in a freak accident.

4. Tasha always wears her favorite squash-flavored lip gloss at posh parties.

5. Moe accidentally sucked up the skinny mailman with his jumbo leaf blower.

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