

Name: _____ Date _____ Pd: _____

Punctuation Notes: Prepositional & Participial Openers

RULE: Use a comma to set off a prepositional phrase sentence opener/beginner

Examples: In the fall of 1991, Frank M. Jordan was elected mayor.
After winter break, I had a hard time coming back to school.

RULE: Use a comma to set off a participial phrase sentence opener/beginner

Example: Plagued by natural disasters, many cities were in need of state aid.
Running for her life, the princess ignored the pains in her feet.

Understanding the rules:

An opener/beginner is _____

A prepositional phrase is _____

A participial phrase is _____

A dependent clause is _____

An independent clause is _____

Guided Practice: Insert a comma when needed. Write the rule(s) you used in the explanation.

1) At the top of the mountain you can see the entire city.

Explanation _____

2) Pausing a moment to consider my answer I responded that she likes the city.

Explanation _____

3) In the tiny yards behind some city buildings the residents have created charming "pocket gardens."

Explanation _____

4) Around the square you can find a drug store a bakery a restaurant and a shoe store.

Explanation (2 -- one of these explanations you should already know)

5) Traveling away from the center of the city you find less crowded living conditions.

Explanation (1)

6) Scared of the dark Boo reached for Sully's thick blue fur.

Explanation (1)

7) The Garth Brooks concert sold out the Vivent arena breaking the record for ticket sales.

8) Uprooted by the winds the tree fell and blocked the road.

Explanation
