

Main Uses of the Comma

***To separate main clauses linked by a coordinating conjunction:**

I completed my initial circuit design, but I have yet to test it in the lab.

***To set off most introductory elements:**

Unfortunately, lab testing indicated that a complete re-design was necessary.

***To set off nonrestrictive elements:**

My lab TA, who is knowledgeable and willing to help students, showed me the problems with my circuit.

***To separate items in a series:**

I needed to think about component tolerances, transistor biasing, and impedance matching of my output.

***To separate two or more adjectives:**

After re-design, I had a functional, robust, and simple circuit design.

***To set up quotations according to standard practice:**

Upon examining my circuit, Professor Woo exclaimed, “This circuit is highly innovative and very useful.”

***To punctuate dates and addresses:**

The most rewarding day of my life was April 9, 1998 because *IEEE Communications Magazine* published my circuit design.