Comma Review

Read each sentence below and add commas as necessary. In the blank line below each sentence, write the comma rule(s) being applied. Some sentences will have more than one comma rule. If the sentence does not need a comma, write “none” on the blank line.

Comma Rules:

1. Items in a series
2. Introductory Expression
3. Interrupter
4. Nonessential Appositive or adjective phrase
5. Direct address
6. Compound Sentence
7. Paired Adjectives
8. Addresses and Dates
9. Ellen brought new jeans, a plaid skirt, and a pair of gloves. \_\_\_items in a series\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. Either we will win tonight, or we will have to face a sad crowd afterward. \_compound sentence\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. A narrow, rough road led to the country market. \_\_paired adjectives\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. The student driver nervously pressed down the accelerator, turned the key, and put the car in gear. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_items in a series\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
13. No, I’m afraid your excuse is not acceptable. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_introductory\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
14. Her room, unfortunately, is right over the garage. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_interrupter\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. Reaching the lake, she searched for her canoe. \_\_\_\_\_\_introductory\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
16. She went to the mall and walked around for hours. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_none\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
17. This is Sagamore Hill, the home of Theodore Roosevelt.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Appositive\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
18. Nashville, which is near the center of Tennessee, is the home of country music. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_nonessential adjective clause\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
19. Alex, who works after school, makes the honor roll every year. \_\_\_\_\_\_nonessential adjective clause\_\_\_
20. Houston, Texas is a rapidly growing city. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_addresses\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
21. Lin is inclined to exaggerate, but her stories are entertaining. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_compound sentences\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
22. The last-known home of the Parker family was 1429 View Ridge Drive, Missoula, Montana. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_addresses\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
23. Joanne Lewis, who happens to be my cousin, writes news articles for local television. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_nonessential clause\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
24. I will vacuum, Hazel, if you will wash the windows. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_direct address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
25. Dina likes apple pie not pecan pie. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_none\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
26. To stop the retreat, the army landed paratroopers. \_\_\_\_\_\_introductory\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
27. Mrs. Jones offered the children peanut butter and jelly, bacon and tomato, or cheese and bologna sandwiches. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_items in a series\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
28. When I try, I can write very well. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_introductory\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
29. An angry, determined speaker addressed the school board. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_paired adjectives\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
30. Frank planned to read his speech, but he lost his notes. \_\_\_\_\_\_compound sentences\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
31. Eli Whitney applied for a patent for his cotton gin on June 20, 1793. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_dates\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
32. The flash flood raced through the narrow canyon, over the flatlands, and into the town’s main street. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_items in a series\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
33. Although she is excellent at ballet, she prefers modern dance. \_\_\_\_\_introductory\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
34. Did you have an appointment, Mr. Jones? \_\_\_\_\_\_direct address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
35. Jackie Robinson, a fine hitter, was a daring base runner. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_nonessential appositive\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
36. On June 4, 1884, the Statue of Liberty was officially presented to the United States. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_dates\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
37. Mr. Anderson agreed, I believe, to go to the store for his wife.\_\_\_\_\_\_interrupter\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
38. The sheepdog pushed and coaxed and prodded his stubborn charges into their pens. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_none\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_