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**Use commas to offset appositives from the rest of the sentence.**

An appositive is a [**noun**](http://www.chompchomp.com/terms/noun.htm) or [**noun phrase**](http://www.chompchomp.com/terms/nounphrase.htm) that renames another noun right beside it.

Example: The insect, ***a cockroach***, is crawling across the kitchen table.

A comma is used before and after the appositive.