

## Commas!!!! BIG PROBLEM! 6 magic rules

1) Put a comma before a change of subject (podmět)

E.g. Bob was grumpy, and it made life miserable for everyone.

Bob ate fish, and his doggy ate dog food.

2) NEVER put a comma before 'that', 'if' or 'when' even if there is a change of subject!

I think, that English punctuation is stupid.



I do not know, if Bob is home. ☹️

I got home, when Bob was having a fit. ☹️

3) A comma is always possible before BUT and necessary before SINCE and AS when they are conjunctions (spojky).

E.G. I was tired, but I continued working nonetheless. ALE Bob ate all the bananas but one.

I was tired, since/as I had been thinking in Czech all day. ALE: I have been here since noon.

**4) Put commas around non-defining clauses and participle clauses (přechodníky)!**

**E.G. Bob, who is my best friend, is coming to visit me.**

**Bob's sisters, seeing that he was an idiot, decided to adopt another brother.**

**5) Put commas around (or after) editorial and organisational comments, time phrases (usually ;), and after the hypothesis of a conditional sentence.**

**E.G. Unfortunately, Bob did not enjoy the trip.**

**The trip, in my opinion, was a waste of time. In the early part of 2009, I was working for a publisher.**

**If I could, I would switch to a logical language like German.**

**6) lists**

**A, B, C(,) and D**

"Highlights of his global tour include encounters with Nelson Mandela, an 800-year-old demigod and a dildo collector."

- \_\_\_\_\_ He left the scene of the accident and tried to forget that it had happened.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Oil which is lighter than water rises to the surface.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Madame de Stael was an attractive gracious lady.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nice is a word with many meanings and some of them are contradictory.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The contractor testified that the house was completed and that the work had been done properly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Some people refuse to go to the zoo because of pity for creatures that must live in small cages.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Taxicabs that are dirty are illegal in some cities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The closet contained worn clothes old shoes and dirty hats.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The uninvited guest wore a dark blue tweed suit.
- \_\_\_\_\_ After surviving this ordeal the trapper felt relieved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mark Twain's early novels I believe stand the test of time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ December 7 1941 will never be forgotten.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The field was safe enough wasn't it? „Question tag“
- \_\_\_\_\_ Write the editor of the Atlantic 8 Arlington Street Boston Massachusetts 02116.
- \_\_\_\_\_ He replied "I have no idea what you mean."
- \_\_\_\_\_ After a good washing and grooming the pup looked like a new dog.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Because of their opposition to institutions that force creatures to live in captivity some people refuse to go to the zoo.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Men who are bald are frequently the ones who are the most authoritative on the subject of baldness.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vests which were once popular have been out of vogue for several years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ As a celestial goddess she regulated the course of the heavenly bodies and controlled the alternating seasons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I hope that someday he will learn how to be polite.