

Commas with Explanatory Phrases

Commas are used to set off phrases that explain or rename nouns. (Turn to 391.4 and 392.1 in *Write Source 2000* for more information.)

EXAMPLES

Islam, a religion founded in Arabia in the seventh century, has well over 1 billion followers.

(Commas are used to separate an explanatory phrase from the rest of the sentence.)

Muhammad, the founder of Islam, died in A.D. 632.

(Commas also separate an appositive from the rest of the sentence. An appositive renames the noun it follows.)

Directions

Add commas to the sentences below. If a sentence is already correct, write *correct* on the line. The first sentence has been done for you.

1. _____ Muslims' followers of Islam' created a huge empire.
2. _____ The Islamic Empire once stretching from Spain to China brought with it the Arabic language, culture, and the Islamic religion.
3. _____ Mecca, the birthplace of Muhammad, is located in western Saudi Arabia.
4. _____ All Muslims try to make the hajj a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their lifetimes.
5. _____ The Koran the Muslims' holy book contains the teachings of Muhammad.
6. _____ People are called to pray five times a day in mosques Muslim holy buildings.