

Restrictive and Nonrestrictive Parenthetical Elements

One sentence of each pair needs commas.

1. adjective clauses

Magnolia, which has a really great plot, is my favorite movie.

It is a play that has a really great plot.

2. participial phrases

The teacher wearing a blue shirt is our mathematics teacher.

Our math teacher, talking to the student in the corner, is good at explaining algebra.

3. appositives

My favorite TV show, *Firefly*, is getting turned into a movie.

The TV show *Firefly* is getting turned into a movie.

4. appositives

Though he is the only pet I have, my dog, *Rico*, is really a character.

Of all our household's dogs, our dog *Eduardo* is my favorite.

5. participial phrases

The room providing the most room for the party is the dining room.

The dining room, recently redecorated, looked fabulous.

6. participial phrases

Joshua, earning the highest score, received an award.

The student earning the highest score received an award.

7. adjective clauses

Samantha, who earned the highest score, was awarded a trophy.

The student who earned the highest score was awarded a trophy.

8. adjective clauses

I bought the textbook that I need for this class.

The course's textbook, which was very well written, is easy to understand.