



Amber once again manoeuvred herself and the unwieldy basket back down the corridor, unsuccessfully attempting to remove the black scuff marks as she went. She finally reached the Concoction classroom and opened the door. The lesson was already in full swing and the girls were busy at their desks whisking, stirring and mixing their ingredients. Nobody noticed Amber enter. Not, that is, until her gown got caught on the door handle and she let go of her basket sending it flying across the classroom. The basket skidded across the floor, spilling its contents before coming to a stop upside-down against Mrs Ledbetter's desk leg. Mrs Ledbetter peered over the top of her half-moon glasses.

"Ah! Amber Dripping! How kind of you to grace us with your presence!"

The girls began to titter, but were soon silenced by Mrs Ledbetter's withering glare.

"Clean up your mess and find your seat, girl," the teacher ordered.

Amber felt like crying, but just about managed to hold back the tears. The ingredients were strewn all over the floor. It had taken her all weekend to assemble them! She would never be able to make her potion now! The half-dozen lizard eggs had smashed. The packet of chestnut bark flour had split. The phial of spider essence had cracked. The pint of curdled goat milk had spilt. The jar of nectar from the Illyrian honey wasp was broken and the nettle leaves were scattered everywhere. And in the middle of the mess was a confused and dazed Grimsby, her pet toad, croaking mournfully.

By the time she had cleaned everything up, stung herself several times on the nettles and soothed Grimsby, the other girls had finished making their potions. The potions were all different colours: snot green, slime brown, mustard yellow and blood red. They had made potions to give you warts, potions to send you to sleep, potions to make your nails curl, potions to make you cackle, concoctions that put hairs on your face and even brews that induced bottom burps. The girls were experimenting on each other and there was a mix of reactions at the extraordinary results. Girls were laughing, crying, cackling. Girls were snoring, shouting, screaming. There were girls with warts on their faces, hairs on their chins and long curly fingernails. Some were cackling loudly, others were noisily snoring, while others were trumping uncontrollably. Mrs Ledbetter brought order with a wave of her wand and everything returned to normal. Amber was disappointed that she hadn't been able to make her potion. She had hoped Mrs Ledbetter would give her an A+ for Concoction studies. Now this would be another class that she would fail!



Name: _____



I can use commas to separate items in a list.

Here is a list of ingredients that the Spellcaster Academy girls brought to school to make their potions.

cat fur	spider legs	lizard tongue	snail slime
bee sting	beetle juice	horse hair	leeches nettles
cowslip	newt eyes	frogs' brain	toad warts
knotweed	bats' blood	rats' tails	snake venom

Add commas to these lists of ingredients.

- 1 The pupils in the Concoction class used leeches nettles and frogs' brain to make their potions.
- 2 Some used spider legs snail slime beetle juice and horse hair.
- 3 Some made a sleeping potion using knotweed bee sting bats' blood and cowslip.

What ingredients would you use to make a potion? Remember to use commas in your list.

- 4 My potion to make people sneeze is made from
- 5 Write some other lists of potions and what they do.

As we have seen, some commas separate **items** in a list, but they can also separate **actions**.

Add commas where they are needed.

- 6 The potions made the children laugh cry giggle and weep.
- 7 After tasting the potions, the children were shouting screaming shrieking and squealing.
- 8 Other children were running jumping bouncing and dancing.

They can also break up lists of long phrases or clauses.

Add commas where they are needed.

- 9 The pupils of the Concoction class mixed the ingredients stirred them with a wooden spoon and boiled them in a cauldron.
- 10 Amber had spent all weekend picking nettles collecting honey wasp nectar gathering lizards' eggs and curdling the goats' milk.

Extension Make a list of ingredients you would put into a witch's cauldron.





I can use commas to separate items in a list.

Here is a list of ingredients that the Spellcaster Academy girls brought to school to make their potions.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| cat fur | spider legs | lizard tongue | snail slime |
| bee sting | beetle juice | horse hair | leeches nettles |
| cowslip | newt eyes | frogs' brain | toad warts |
| knotweed | bats' blood | rats' tails | snake venom |

Complete these lists of ingredients remembering to separate the items with commas.

- 1 The pupils in the Concoction class used leeches
- 2 Some used spider legs
- 3 Some made a sleeping potion using knotweed

What ingredients would you use to make a potion? Remember to use commas in your list.

- 4 My potion to make people sneeze is made from
- 5 Write some other lists of potions and what they do.

As we have seen, some commas separate **items** in a list, but they can also separate **actions**.

Complete the list of actions and then add commas where they are needed.

- 6 The potions made the children laugh
- 7 After tasting the potions, the children were shouting
- 8 Other children were running

They can also break up lists of long phrases or clauses.

Add commas where they are needed.

- 9 The pupils of the Concoction class mixed the ingredients stirred them with a wooden spoon and boiled them in a cauldron.
- 10 Amber had spent all weekend picking nettles collecting honey wasp nectar gathering lizards' eggs and curdling the goats' milk.

Extension Make a list of ingredients you would put into a witch's cauldron.





I can use commas to separate items in a list.

Here is a list of ingredients that the Spellcaster Academy girls brought to school to make their potions. What else can you add to the list?

cat fur	spider legs	lizard tongue	snail slime	bee sting	beetle juice
.....
.....
.....

Complete these lists of ingredients remembering to separate the items with commas.

- 1 The pupils in the Concoction class used leeches
- 2 Some used spider legs
- 3 Some made a sleeping potion using knotweed

What ingredients would you use to make a potion? Remember to use commas in your list.

- 4 My potion to make people sneeze is made from
- 5 Write some other lists of potions and what they do.

As we have seen, some commas separate **items** in a list, but they can also separate **actions**.

Complete the list of actions and then add commas where they are needed.

- 6 The potions made the children laugh
- 7 After tasting the potions, the children were shouting
- 8 Other children were running

They can also break up lists of long phrases or clauses.

Add commas where they are needed.

- 9 The pupils of the Concoction class mixed the ingredients stirred them with a wooden spoon and boiled them in a cauldron.
- 10 Amber's ingredients included nettles honey wasp nectar lizards' eggs and curdled goats' milk.

Complete the list of activities she had to do to get all the ingredients above.

- 11 Amber had spent all weekend picking nettles

Extension Make a list of ingredients you would put into a witch's cauldron.

