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| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes**  **Topic: Commas between Two Adjectives** |
| **Deciding when a comma is necessary**  If there are two or more adjectives in a sentence, a comma can be used to separate them to provide clarity. If you can replace the comma with the word “and” and reverse the order of the adjectives, the comma is necessary. Check out the below examples:  Example 1 **(CORRECT):**  Slippery, treacherous roads are common after a big snowfall.  Slippery and treacherous roads are common after a big snowfall.  Treacherous, slippery roads are common after a big snowfall.  Example 2 **(INCORRECT):**  Shannon loves wearing pink cashmere sweaters in the winter.  Shannon loves wearing pink and cashmere sweaters in the winter.  Shannon loves wearing cashmere, pink sweaters in the winter.  In the first example, the adjectives “slippery” and “treacherous” are interchangeable; neither carries more weight in describing the roads, so the comma between the two adjectives is correct. In the second example however, the adjectives “pink” and “cashmere” are not easily swapped, as “cashmere” carries more weight. Likewise, writing “pink and cashmere sweaters” is both grammatically incorrect and nonsensical; these adjectives are called cumulative adjectives and do not require commas. |

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