**Commas & Introductory Elements Study Guide**

On Thursday, December 9th, we will take a quiz on using commas with introductory elements. There are several introductory elements in sentences that require the use of a comma. Some of these elements are listed below:

* The sentence begins with a **dependent clause**. A dependent clause is a part of a sentence that can’t stand on its own. For example:

If you wear a jacket, you may play outside.

‘If you wear a jacket’ is a dependent clause; it is not a complete sentence (it depends on the rest of the sentence to make sense.)

Some words to look for in introductory phrases are **after, although, as, because, before, if, since, until, & when.**

* The sentence begins with a **prepositional phrase**.

Between the towering city buildings, the sky could be seen.

Under the tattered couch cushions, her crumpled book report was hidden.

* The sentence begins with an **adverb.**

Quietly, we tiptoed past the sleeping bear.

Slowly, the turtle lumbered across the busy street.

* The sentence begins with a **transitional word or phrase.**

First, take out your pencil.

In conclusion, I believe that my bed time should be changed to 10:00.

* The sentence begins with **yes** or **no.**

Yes, I like pizza.

No, I do not want to go to Publix.