

## Teacher Answer Key: Comma Rules Worksheet - Gandhi & Martin Luther King Jr.

1. "Martin Luther King Jr. was deeply influenced by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, a leader who fought for India's independence through nonviolent resistance."

- **No correction needed.** The sentence is correct as it is.
- **Explanation:** The comma is used correctly to separate the descriptive phrase "a leader who fought for India's independence through nonviolent resistance."

2. "Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence or ahimsa taught that peaceful protest could lead to social change."

- **Corrected sentence:** "Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence, or ahimsa, taught that peaceful protest could lead to social change."
- **Explanation:** Commas should be placed around "or ahimsa" because it is an interrupting phrase that adds extra information about the term "nonviolence."

3. "King first learned about Gandhi's principles when he was in college, at that time King was struggling with his own beliefs about how to fight racial injustice."

- **Corrected sentence:** "King first learned about Gandhi's principles when he was in college. At that time, King was struggling with his own beliefs about how to fight racial injustice."
- **Explanation:** A period should separate the two independent clauses. "At that time" is an introductory phrase, and a comma should follow it.

4. "Gandhi's teachings inspired King to lead the Civil Rights Movement using peaceful means even in the face of violence."

- **Corrected sentence:** "Gandhi's teachings inspired King to lead the Civil Rights Movement using peaceful means, even in the face of violence."
- **Explanation:** A comma is needed before "even" because "even in the face of violence" is a non-essential phrase that adds extra information.

5. "King referred to Gandhi as the guiding light of our movement, this inspiration helped shape the future of the Civil Rights Movement."

- **Corrected sentence:** "King referred to Gandhi as the guiding light of our movement. This inspiration helped shape the future of the Civil Rights Movement."
- **Explanation:** A period should be used instead of a comma to separate two independent clauses. The comma creates a comma splice.

6. "As a result King adopted many of Gandhi's methods, such as boycotts, sit-ins, and marches to peacefully challenge segregation."

- **Corrected sentence:** "As a result, King adopted many of Gandhi's methods, such as boycotts, sit-ins, and marches, to peacefully challenge segregation."
- **Explanation:** A comma is needed after "As a result" because it is an introductory phrase. Also, a comma should be placed after "marches" to separate the non-essential phrase "to peacefully challenge segregation."

**7. "Gandhi's philosophy, which emphasized nonviolence, inspired people all over the world to fight for justice in peaceful ways."**

- **No correction needed.** The sentence is correct as it is.
- **Explanation:** The commas are used correctly to set off the non-essential clause "which emphasized nonviolence."

**8. "King's commitment to nonviolent resistance was influenced by Gandhi, yet King also adapted Gandhi's methods to fit the context of America's racial struggles."**

- **No correction needed.** The sentence is correct as it is.
- **Explanation:** The comma is used correctly before the conjunction "yet" to separate the two independent clauses.

**9. "While Gandhi fought for India's independence, King fought for the civil rights of African Americans in the United States."**

- **No correction needed.** The sentence is correct as it is.
- **Explanation:** The comma after "While Gandhi fought for India's independence" is correct because it separates the introductory dependent clause from the independent clause.

**10. "This inspiration helped shape the future of the Civil Rights Movement, and played a key role in achieving legislative victories for equality in the United States."**

- **Corrected sentence:** "This inspiration helped shape the future of the Civil Rights Movement and played a key role in achieving legislative victories for equality in the United States."
- **Explanation:** The comma before "and" is unnecessary. There is no need for a comma when two verbs (played and helped) share the same subject ("This inspiration").