

Term: “Appositives”

Definition:

An appositive is a noun or pronoun — often with modifiers — set beside another noun or pronoun to explain or identify it.

In some cases, the noun being explained is too general without the appositive; the information is essential to the meaning of the sentence. When this is the case, do not place commas around the appositive; just leave it alone. If the sentence would be clear and complete without the appositive, then commas are necessary; place one before and one after the appositive.