

What is Apposition?

Worksheet

Apposition is when two noun phrases refer to the same person or thing and appear consecutively: 'Jean, mon ami, arriva tard' (John, my friend, arrived late). The second phrase renames or clarifies the first.

Questions

1. Which sentence uses apposition correctly?

- A) She is a doctor, who treats patients.
- B) Paris, the capital of France, is beautiful.
- C) He works as an engineer, building bridges.
- D) The book, which I read, was long.

2. In 'My friend Tom is here,' what is the appositive?

- A) My
- B) friend
- C) Tom
- D) is here

3. What does the appositive do?

- A) Modifies with an adjective
- B) Renames or clarifies
- C) Describes an action
- D) Introduces a clause

4. Which is NOT an appositive use?

- A) The author, Jane Austen, lived in England.
- B) He became a doctor, a goal he pursued.
- C) The city Paris attracts tourists.
- D) My boss, Mr. Smith, called me.

5. Identify the apposition in: 'Marie, une étudiante brillante, a gagné le concours.'

6. Rewrite using apposition: 'Shakespeare was an English playwright. He wrote Hamlet.'

7. Mark the appositive in: 'Le Louvre, un musée célèbre, attire des millions de visiteurs.'

8. Define: What is apposition?

9. Define: Example of apposition in French?

10. Define: How is apposition usually punctuated?

Answer Key

1. B) Paris, the capital of France, is beautiful. — 'Paris, the capital of France' is a true apposition — the noun phrase renames the first.
2. C) Tom — Tom is the appositive renaming my friend.
3. B) Renames or clarifies — Apposition renames or clarifies the preceding noun.
4. C) The city Paris attracts tourists. — 'The city Paris' is a name apposition but not set apart by commas — it's integrated differently.
5. Marie = first noun phrase une étudiante brillante = appositive phrase The appositive clarifies who Marie is. Both refer to the same person.
6. Combine into one sentence with apposition. Shakespeare, an English playwright, wrote Hamlet.
Or: Shakespeare, who wrote Hamlet, was an English playwright.
7. Le Louvre = noun phrase 1 un musée célèbre = appositive (renames/clarifies Le Louvre) Both refer to the same place.
8. Two noun phrases side-by-side where the second renames or clarifies the first.
9. 'Marie, ma soeur, habite à Paris' — ma soeur is the appositive clarifying Marie.
10. Commas or dashes separate the appositive: 'Paris, la capitale, est belle.'

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