

Using Appositive Phrases

Sometimes you probably find that you are writing a sentence to explain something in a sentence you have already written. When this happens, you can often turn the sentence that explains into an appositive phrase.

An **appositive** is a noun or pronoun placed beside another noun or pronoun to identify or explain it. An **appositive phrase** is made up of an appositive and its modifiers.

Original:	That ceramic bowl is inlaid with crystals. <i>It was a birthday gift.</i>
Combined:	That ceramic bowl, <i>a birthday gift</i> , is inlaid with crystals.

NOTE: Appositive phrases are set off by commas.

With a little practice with appositive phrases, your writing will appear polished and you will sound knowledgeable.

DIRECTIONS *Combine the following sentences. Use at least one appositive in each sentence. Punctuate and capitalize each sentence properly.*

1. Pottery can be valuable or quite ordinary. Pottery consists of items made of baked clay.

2. Earthenware is a common type of pottery. It is covered by a colored glaze.

3. Stoneware is a heavy pottery fired at high temperatures. It can be glazed.

4. Two types of pottery are not usually glazed. These are a stoneware called jasper and an earthenware called terra cotta.

5. Fine china is soft-paste porcelain. Soft-paste porcelain is the most delicate type of pottery.

6. One of the oldest ways of making pottery is the coil method. It is also one of the simplest.

7. A potter's wheel is often electrically powered. It is one of the devices used to shape clay.

Answer Keys: (Answer will vary. These are sample answers.)

1. Pottery, items made of baked clay, can be valuable or quite ordinary.
2. Earthenware, a common type of pottery, is covered by a colored glaze.
3. Stoneware, a heavy pottery fired at high temperatures, can be glazed.
4. Two types of pottery, a stoneware called jasper and an earthenware called terra cotta, are not usually glazed.
5. Fine china is soft-paste porcelain, the most delicate type of pottery.
6. One of the oldest ways of making pottery, the coil method, is also one of the simplest.
7. A potter's wheel, one of the devices used to shape clay, is often electrically powered.