

A Bracketing Comma



The name bracket helps you to remember how to use the bracket comma. If a bracket could surround a portion of the sentence, commas can also be used. If the sentence still makes sense without the portion, you know that bracket commas could be used. It is a part of a sentence that doesn't interrupt the flow of the sentence.

James wanted to stay after school, but, after realizing he didn't have a ride home, decided to head home instead.

(The underlined section in the above sentence could be bracketed and the sentence still makes sense without that portion.)

They looked for the owner and, finally finding him, they introduced themselves.

(The underlined section in the above sentence could be bracketed and the sentence still makes sense without