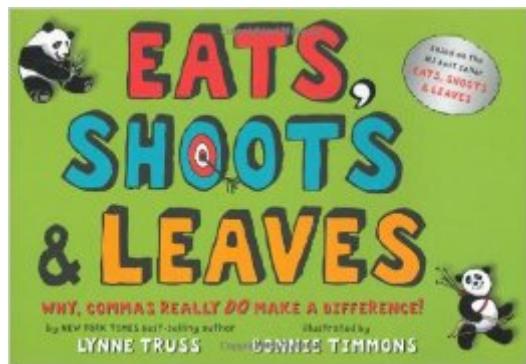


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# Eats, Shoots & Leaves: Why, Commas Really Do Make A Difference!



## **Synopsis**

Illuminating the comical confusion the lowly comma can cause, this new edition of Eats, Shoots & Leaves uses lively, subversive illustrations to show how misplacing or leaving out a comma can change the meaning of a sentence completely. This picture book is sure to elicit gales of laughterâ "and better punctuationâ "from all who read it.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers (July 25, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399244913

ISBN-13: 978-0399244919

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 0.3 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (104 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #17,616 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Reading & Writing > Grammar #39 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Humor > General #5087 inÂ Books > Reference

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

If you are tired of explaining and re-explaining the importance of punctuation in writing, then this is the book for you. I originally purchased the "adult" version of this book, and while it is very clever, it is not appropriate for my students. This book, however, is perfect for my learning disabled 7th graders. Lynne Truss makes it quite clear why teachers are so picky about commas--they totally change the meaning of the sentence. The pictures help make it even more obvious that to get across the exact message, the writer must watch punctuation marks. The probably crude "gas sentence" is especially appealing to 7th grade boys. As a middle school teacher, I am no longer shocked or upset by crude pictures, statements, writing. It comes with the age group. The endnotes that explain the rule for each picture add to the educational content. This is another purchase I made over the summer--see "This is the Teacher"--that will be used and enjoyed by my middle school students. Nowadays students want to be entertained at school. Children will easily be entertained while learning the rules of grammar.

Based upon the much longer "adult" book by the same name, EATS, SHOOTS & LEAVES takes a cue from its progenitor and attempts to illustrate to kids the importance of commas and using them properly. The book has a series of illustrations accompanying each of the sentences to vividly display the different meanings in the sentences because of the commas. For instance, one of the sentences says, "Eat here, and get gas" and is accompanied by an illustration of a gas and food place. The next page says, "Eat here and get gas" and shows a scene in a restaurant with a person flying in the air because of a belch. The comparison might seem crude for older readers, but for children and juveniles it makes the point quite clear. At the end of the book there are two pages explaining the differences between each of the sentences and why the comma placement is so important. Overall, this is a great book to illustrate "why, commas really do make a difference." It's geared more towards children in Pre-K--5th grades, but from experience I know that it could be very useful as a tool in some middle school and even high school English language arts classes.

I just bought this book for my eight-year-old granddaughter, but I think I laughed about as much as she did. The artist's drawings are clever and funny, and illustrate a simple sentence to show what happens when a comma moves or isn't used properly. The book also has short explanations at the back of the book in case you're not, as I am not, an expert at punctuation rules and grammar. I hope Truss and Timmons explain a great deal more of grammar. They made commas great fun for my granddaughter--and for me!

I am a school librarian who can't keep the "older" version of this book on the shelves between teachers, students and their parents laughing their way through it. When I saw a younger version listed in a bookstore, I made the mistake of buying it sight unseen and was quite disappointed. While the cartoons are amusing and the whole concept is good, I have found myself wondering why I paid so much for this book. Most of our kids page through it once and are bored by the time they get to the second reading. It could have been so much better!

This book is an absolute must for every one no matter what their age. It shows you just how ridiculous, hilarious or frightening it can be when you use incorrect punctuation. I bought the children's version for my grandchildren and the original version for my daughter who is an English teacher. Ms. Truss writes in an entertaining fashion and gets her point across. The reading moves along quickly.

Having read the adult version of this book and found it humorous and informative, I decided to look at the children's version as well. I discovered that the latter is not just humorous and informative but also endearing. The illustrations that accompany each example brought a smile to my face and demonstrated in a way that even a child (or a childlike adult) could understand what the purpose of commas is and why they make a difference. I wish we had had this book when our children were young. This is a great teaching tool for grade schoolers. Given the state of punctuation today, adults can benefit as well.

My 9 year old thinks this book is hysterical. It would have been better if there were more to it for the price, but it's still worth buying!

I am a little disappointed by this book, but it was my own fault. I should have read the specifications more closely and notice that it has so few pages and that it was published by scholastic. Then I would have known to expect a few clever pairs of sentences with engaging graphics and not much else.

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