

Assessment Preparation: Comma Usage

Directions: Use the page number for each example below to help you find the following quotes from **Number the Stars**. Using a red pen or colored pencil, write the punctuation marks Lois Lowry used in the novel. Choose from rules 1-4 on page 27 and decide which of the four choices she used to avoid a comma splice or run-on, and **write the rule** on the line. Draw a circle around the word and/or punctuation mark that solves the problem of the comma splice or run-on.

1. (page 1) "Annemarie's silvery blond hair flew behind her and Ellen's dark pigtailed bounced against her shoulders."

2. (page 7) "The Copenhagen neighborhood was quiet it looked the same as always..."

3. (page 7) "Although she pretended to be absorbed in unpacking her schoolbooks Annemarie listened and she knew what her mother was referring to."

(first comma) _____

(second comma) _____

4. (page 16) "For days they thought he would die and all of Denmark had mourned."

5. (page 21) "There *were* no pink cupcakes there hadn't been for months."

6. (page 22) "Peter's here Papa and I want to talk to you."

In the paragraph below, you will find errors in both punctuation and capitalization.

Directions: Revise the paragraph below. Use proofreaders' marks to indicate what changes you want to make. Try to use each of the four ways to correct run-on sentences. Then write your new paragraph on the back of this page or on a separate sheet of paper.

Lucy trudged down the school hall she could barely see over the stack of books she carried she finally made it to her locker at the end of the hall she opened it a landslide of papers and old lunches tumbled out onto the floor Lucy smiled now she had enough room for her books

