

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Introductory Elements

**James Forten**

**Grammar:** Commas and  
Semicolons

Introductory elements are words, phrases, or clauses that appear at the beginning of a sentence. They add information, but they are not part of the main sentence. To show they are introductory elements, they are set off by commas.

## **introductory word**

**Truly**, I believe it is important to know about James Forten and other patriots.

## **Thinking Question**

*Is there a word or group of words that introduces the sentence but is not part of the main sentence?*

**Underline each introductory word or phrase. Then correctly punctuate the sentence.**

1. Like James Forten many successful African Americans worked to abolish slavery.
2. For example Frederick Douglass, who lived in the 1800s, became a famous abolitionist.
3. In the 1700s it was difficult for African Americans to become successful.
4. For many African Americans going to school was not an option.
5. In fact enslaved people could be punished for learning to read and write.
6. Well that is because education opens people's eyes to what is right and wrong.
7. As a result they may recognize injustice and work for change.
8. "Yes you are right. That makes me appreciate my education more."