Comma’s for clarity

Commas are used in many different ways, from separating items in a list, to taking a short pause in a sentence, to being placed in you relative or subordinate clauses. These all help to ensure that your sentence is understandable and makes sense.

The word clarity means being precise and assuring that your sentences say exactly what you mean.

For example:

Inside, the dog was barking. – This sentence tells me that the dog is inside and the dog is barking.

Inside the dog, was barking. – This sentence tells me that something inside of the dog is barking and making noise.

These are both the same sentences but the comma implies that something different is happening in each one.

Question example:

Which one of these sentences uses a comma correctly?

1. It’s unlikely, that we will be able to visit Gran Auntie Jane and Tim all in one afternoon.
2. It’s unlikely that we will be able to visit Gran, Auntie Jane and Tim all in one afternoon.
3. It’s unlikely that we will be able to visit Gran Auntie Jane, and Tim all in one afternoon.

The correct answer would be number 2 as it is using a comma in a list form.

Can you create your own question and answer similar to the example above?