How to combine Simple Sentences to make Compound and Complex Sentences

NOTE: Try to join only 2 sentences otherwise you may have a TMI “sentence.”

1.COORDINATION 2.SUBORDINATION

Compound sentence formulas Subordinate sentence formulas

:SV **,CRD CJX** SV A. SV **SUB CJX** SV (no comma)

For reason B. **SUB CJX** SV, SV

And additional idea after since

Nor also not  **coordinating** although unless **subordinating**

But contrast **< conjunctions** as, as if until < **conjunctions**

Or options because when, whenever

Yet unexpected information before whereas

So result if while

3.COMPOUND SENTENCES WITH SEMICOLON

1. SV ; sv You live; you die. (semicolon only)
2. SV **; conjunctive adverb ,** sv You live; however, you also die.

consequently moreover

furthermore nevertheless

however then

in fact therefore

indeed

PRACTICE COORDINATION AND SUBORDINATION

Read each pair of SIMPLE SENTENCES. Then join each pair in the different ways using the conjunctions or transition words given. Use comma or semicolon when needed.

1. Nobody wants to work. It is too hot today.
2. (for)
3. (because)
4. (so)
5. I enjoyed last year’s vacation in Canada. I expect to go again soon.
6. (since)
7. (because)
8. (therefore)
9. The police investigated the robbery for months. They could not solve it.
10. (but)
11. (although)
12. (however)
13. The new sofa feels scratchy and uncomfortable. I prefer to sit on the old comfy sofa.
14. (for)
15. (because)
16. (therefore)

Practice Coordination to make Compound Sentences. Combine these pairs of simple sentences with the appropriate coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS).

1. We can go to the museum together. I can meet you there.
2. My friends and I stay connected through email. We talk on the phone once a month.
3. We had to put our dog to sleep. She was very old and lame.
4. I had almost no money with me. I used my credit card.
5. My colleague constantly complains about being broke. She’s always buying new clothes.
6. The sweater I order finally came. It is a little too small.
7. We can’t use calculators for the math test. We can’t use our books.

Practice Subordination to make Complex Sentences. Add an independent clause that transforms the fragment (or dependent clause) into a complete sentence.

1. **If** I don’t pay my credit card bill on time,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **because** she ran a red light.
3. **As soon as** the weather gets warmer, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **before** I get married.
5. **When** I feel homesick, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**even if** I have to pay more money.
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**unless** someone has a better idea.
8. **Wherever** you go in the USA, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.