

Sentence Fluency

Short, Choppy Sentences	Combined Sentence with a Compound Subject
<u>Rudy</u> grew up in Dallas. <u>Her brothers</u> grew up in Dallas.	<u>Rudy and her brothers</u> grew up in Dallas.

1–6. Combine the sentences by joining the subjects with the word *and* to form a compound subject. Write the new sentence on the line.

1. Trees surrounded our yard. Bushes surrounded our yard.

2. Mother played in a neighborhood band. Daddy played in a neighborhood band.

3. Marty practiced the piano after school. I practiced the piano after school.

4. My mother sang in the church choir. My Aunt Jo sang in the church choir.

5. Friends visited our house often. Relatives visited our house often.

6. Our parents protected us from harm. Our grandparents protected us from harm.

Simple and Compound Sentences

A **simple sentence** has one complete thought. It has a subject that tells who or what the sentence is about. It has a verb that tells what the subject does.

subject verb

Markos plays baseball.

A **compound sentence** has two or more complete thoughts joined together. The separate ideas can be joined with a comma (,) and a conjunction.

Mother felt happy, **so** she sang a song.

Thinking Question

What will you always find in a simple sentence? What will you always find in a compound sentence?

1–6. Write **S** on the line if it is a simple sentence. Write **C** on the line if it is a compound sentence.

1. ___ Ana and Bruce ate eggs and drank milk for breakfast.
2. ___ My baby sister was tired, so she took a nap.
3. ___ I like baseball, but my brother likes basketball.
4. ___ I want to go swimming and hiking today.
5. ___ Mom cheers for the Packers, but Dad prefers the Bears.
6. ___ Lee spread butter and jelly on his biscuit.

Combining Simple Sentences

Try these methods to combine short, choppy sentences or to fix run-on sentences.

1. Combine the subjects.
2. Combine the verbs.
3. Connect the ideas with a comma (,) and a conjunction such as *or, for, and, nor, but, yet, or so*.

poor sentences

June likes to sing. June draws well.

June likes to sing June draws well.

compound sentences

June likes to sing, and she also draws well.

Thinking Question

What punctuation is used to combine the simple sentences? What conjunction is used to combine the simple sentences?

1–5. Rewrite each sentence to avoid short, choppy sentences and run-on sentences.

1. Carla put on her skates. Carla skated across the pond.

2. Jen is collecting food for the food bank.

Fran is collecting food for the food bank.

3. Jen collects food for the food bank.

She helps people.

4. Nathan and Aaron are taller than Ed.

Nathan and Aaron are not as tall as Jim.

5. I slept for two hours. I am still tired.

Sentence Fluency

Two Sentences with the Same Subject	Sentences Combined Using a Comma and a Conjunction
Dora got on her bike. Dora rode her bike down the street.	Dora got on her bike, <u>and</u> she rode down the street.

1–5. Combine each pair of simple sentences using a comma and a conjunction.

1. Next month is my tenth birthday. I can't wait to get an allowance.

2. Olivia was sick today. We brought her books to her after school.

3. Every year our class does a project to help the community. This year will not be different.

4. Gary called his friends. They were at football practice.

5. Dad had to cook dinner. Bridget watched her little sister.
