Varying Sentences
PRACTICE 20.38 Varying Sentence Beginning
Read the sentences. Rewrite each sentence, changing the beginning as specified in parentheses. If there are two sentences, combine them, using one of the sentences to help you create the specified beginning.

EXAMPLE Gary and I went out for pizza. (Begin with a prepositional phrase.)
ANSWER After school, Gary and I went out for pizza,

1. I caught a fish. That was surprising. (Begin with an adverb.)

2. Red-winged blackbirds flew toward the lake. (Begin with a prepositional phrase.)

3. Completing the crossword puzzle is my goal. (Begin with an infinitive.)

4. The dancer leaped into the air. (Change the subject-verb order.)

5. My favorite activity is playing baseball. (Begin with a gerund.)

Practice A Identifying Compound Parts in Sentences
Read each sentence. Write the compound subject, compound verb, or compound direct object

Example: She bought socks and shoes at the store.
Answer: She bought socks and shoes at the store.

1. Mom cooked roast beef and sweet potatoes.

2. Scott builds and races bicycles.

3. People canoe and kayak on the lake.

4. Teresa and Al sing in the school chorus.

5. At the state park, we saw an armadillo and a fox.

Practice B Combining Main Clauses
Read the sentences. Combine them to make a compound sentence using a comma and the conjunction in parentheses.

Example: Sally doesn't like heights. She wanted to climb the tower. (but)
Answer: Sally doesn't like heights, but she wanted to climb the tower.

1. The project was challenging. I learned a lot. (but)

2. The roller-coaster ride was scary. I rode it again. (yet)

3. The night sky was clear. We were able to see the meteor shower. (so)

4. You can download the song from the Internet. You can buy the CD. (or)

5. We went to West Texas. We hiked in the Guadalupe Mountains. (and)

LIVEWORKSHEETS