Compound Sentences with And, But, Or, and So

- An **independent clause** is a group of words with at least one subject and one main verb and forms a complete thought.

  Independent clause: **Alex** **likes** **chocolate.**

  subject *verb* *object*

- A **compound sentence** combines two or more independent clauses with connecting words **(and, but, or, so)**.

  Everyone was busy, **so** **I went to the movie alone.**

  independent clause *connecting word* *independent clause*

- A comma separates the clauses, but short two-clause sentence with ***and*** may not need a comma (especially if the subject of the two clauses is the same).

Compound Sentences with And, But, Or, and So		
and	***And*** adds information and connects similar ideas.	Alex likes chocolate. + He eats it every day. = Alex likes chocolate, **and** he eats it every day.
but	***But*** shows contrast and connects opposing ideas.	She has blonde hair. + Her sister has brown hair. = She has blonde hair, **but** her sister has brown hair.
or	***Or*** expresses an alternative or choice.	Do you want soup? + Do you want a salad? = Do you want soup, **or** do you want a salad?
so	***So*** introduces a result.	Everyone was busy. + I went to the movie alone. = Everyone was busy, **so** I went to the movie alone.

1 **PRACTICE** Combine each pair of sentences using a comma and the word in brackets.

Example: I want some cereal. The box is empty. (but)
I want some cereal, but the box is empty.

1. They arrived early for the movie. They had great seats. (so)

_____

2. I really like ice cream. I am too full for dessert. (but)

_____

3. We could start dinner now. We could wait for everyone else to arrive. (or)

_____

4. My dad raked the front lawn. He put the leaves in a big pile. (and)

_____

5. Mark is done work early. We can leave now. (so)

_____

6. We went for a walk. It started to rain. (and)

_____

7. She doesn't play the piano. She plays the guitar. (but)

_____

8. The power was out. The lights didn't work. (so)

_____

9. Tom started the barbecue. He cooked the chicken. (and)

_____

10. For breakfast, we can make pancakes. We can make eggs. (or)

_____

11. He bought a new jacket. She bought new shoes. (and)

_____

12. His car had a flat tire. He was late for work. (so)

_____

13. Natalie's family went to the zoo. They didn't enjoy it. (but)

_____

14. Janice doesn't like scary movies. She doesn't watch them. (so)

_____

15. There are six people living here. It is very loud. (so)

_____

16. You can take a train. You can take a bus. (or)

_____

17. Our fridge stopped working. The food went bad. (so)

_____

18. He is sick. He is going to the doctor. (so)

_____

2 PRACTICE Combine the sentences with and, but, or, or so.

1. The shoes were very expensive. I didn't buy them.

_____

2. Do you live in a house? Do you live in an apartment?

_____

3. Mary ran fast. She couldn't catch John.

_____

4. She goes for a walk every day. She takes her dog.

_____