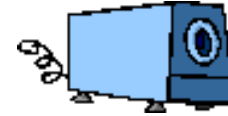


Combining Sentences



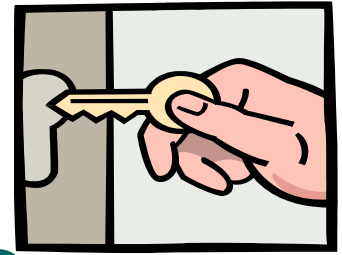
One plus one equals
one.

Combining Sentences



Sentence combining is making one smoother, more detailed sentence out of two or more shorter sentences.

- Combining with key words
- Combining with phrases
- Combining with longer sentences



Combining with KEY WORDS

- Use a key word:

Ideas included in short sentences can be combined by moving a key word from one sentence to the other.

Use an adjective

- Short sentences:

Kelly's necklace sparkles.

It is beaded.



- Combined with an adjective:

Kelly's beaded necklace sparkles.

Try it!

- Short sentences:

The women always have to wait in a line.

The line is long.

- Combined with an adjective:

The women always have to wait in a long line.



Use an adverb

- Short sentences:

I am going to a sleepover.

I 'm going tomorrow.



- Combined with an adverb:

Tomorrow I am going to a sleepover.

Try it!

- Short Sentences:

You are supposed to sit on the bus.

You are supposed to sit quietly.

- Combined with an adverb:

You are supposed to sit quietly on the bus.



Use a series of words or phrases

- Short sentences:

The reading teacher is organized.

The reading teacher is funny.

The reading teacher is helpful.



- Combined with a series of words:

The reading teacher is organized, funny, and helpful.

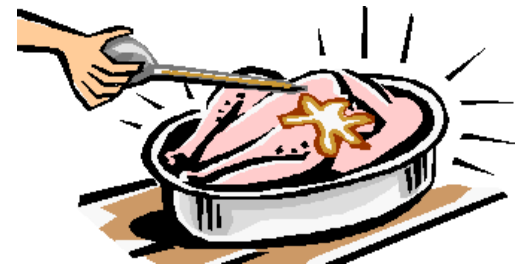
Try it!

- Short sentences:

On Thanksgiving, we have turkey.

We also have stuffing.

We also have gravy.



- Combined with a series of words:

On Thanksgiving, we have turkey, stuffing, and gravy.

REMEMBER!



All of the words or phrases in a series should be parallel (stated in the same way).

Otherwise, the sentences will be unbalanced.

Incorrect: My dog is friendly, playful, and he is smart, too. (The modifiers in the series are not parallel.)

Correct: My dog is friendly, playful, and smart. (All the words in the series are single-word adjectives. They are parallel.)

Correct it!

- Incorrect:

We can hike, ski, or we can snowboard down the mountain, too.



- Correct:

We can hike, ski, or snowboard down the mountain.

Combining with PHRASES



- Use phrases:

Ideas from short sentences can be combined into one sentence using phrases.

Combined with a prepositional phrase

- Short sentences:

Our cat curls up.

He curls up on top of my homework.



- Combined with a prepositional phrase:

Our cat curls up on top of my homework.

Try it!

- Short sentences:

He signed his name.

He signed it on a football.



- Combined with a prepositional phrase:

He signed his name on a football.

Combined with an appositive phrase

- Short sentences:

Mrs. Brown makes the best cookies on the block.

Mrs. Brown is our next-door neighbor.



- Combined with an appositive phrase:

Mrs. Brown, our next-door neighbor, makes the best cookies on the block.

Try it!

- Short sentences:

Sam wants to be a professional baseball player.

He is my brother's best friend.



- Combined with an appositive phrase:

Sam, my brother's best friend, wants to be a professional baseball player.

Use compound subjects and/or compound verbs

- A compound subject is two or more subjects connected by a conjunction.
- A compound verb is two or more verbs connected by a conjunction.



Combined with a compound subject

- Short sentences:

Jamie danced around the room.

Mary danced around the room, too.



- Combined with a compound subject:

Jamie and Mary danced around the room.

Try it!

- Short sentences:

Sue rode her horse today.

Scott rode his horse today.



- Combined with a compound subject:

Sue and Scott rode their horses today.

Combined with a compound verb

- Short sentences:

Janet skated onto the pond.

She made a perfect figure eight.



- Combined with a compound verb:

Janet skated onto the pond and made a perfect figure eight.

Try it!

- Short sentences:

My teacher dropped her glasses.

My teacher laughed.

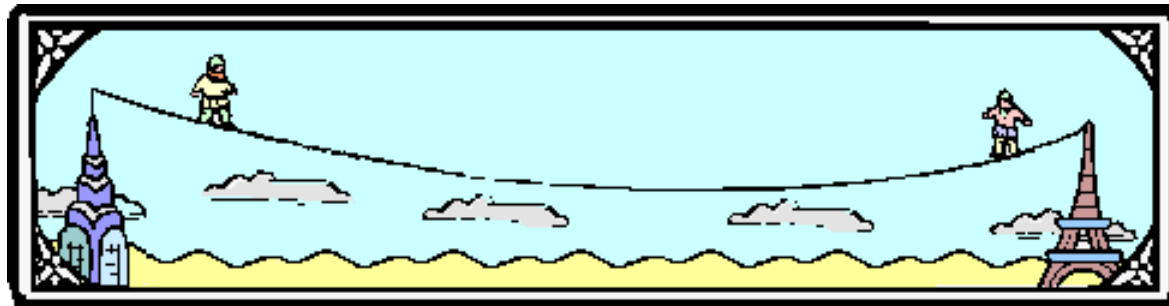


- Combined with a compound verb:

My teacher dropped her glasses and laughed.

Combining with LONGER SENTENCES

- Use compound sentences
- Use complex sentences



Use compound sentences



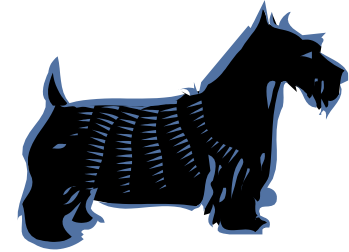
- A compound sentence is made up of two or more simple sentences joined together. The conjunction and, but, or, nor, for, so, and yet are used to connect the simple sentences.
- Remember to place a comma before a conjunction!

Use compound sentences

- Simple sentences:

My dog has hair hanging over his eyes.

He looks just like a dust mop.



- Combined with and:

My dog has hair hanging over his eyes, and he looks just like a dust mop.

Try it!

- Simple sentences:

Mary wrote a book about the seasons.

It was interesting.



Combined with and:

Mary wrote a book about the seasons, and it was interesting.

Use complex sentences



- A complex sentence is made up of two ideas connected by a subordinating conjunction (because, when, since, after, before, though, although, if, unless, when, where, while, etc.).
- A complex sentence can also be combined by a relative pronoun (who, whose, which, and that).

Combine sentences using a subordinating conjunction

- Simple sentences:

My friend shares her lunch with me.

She doesn't like what her dad packs.



- Combined with because:

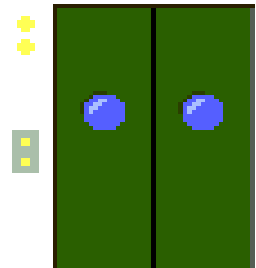
My friend shares her lunch with me because she doesn't like what her dad packs.

Try it!

- Simple sentences:

We took the elevator to the second floor.

The stairs were closed for repairs.



- Combined with because:

We took the elevator to the second floor because the stairs were closed for repairs.

Combine sentences using a relative pronoun

- Simple sentences:

Very cold weather closed school for a day.

The cold weather came down from Canada.



Combined with which:

Very cold weather, which came down from Canada, closed school for a day.

Try it!

- Simple sentences:

Jack ran all the way to school.

Jack was late this morning.



- Combined using who:

Jack, who was late this morning, ran all the way to school.