

3. Combining Sentences With And

Discuss

You can often combine two short sentences to make a longer sentence. You can often use **and** to connect the sentences. Read these examples together:

1. Karen is reading a book. Antonio is writing a report.
Karen is reading a book, **and** Antonio is writing a report.
2. Carlos is coming home tomorrow. His friends are coming with him.
Carlos is coming home tomorrow, **and** his friends are coming with him.
3. Jake is cooking dinner. Jake is serving dinner.
Jake is cooking **and** serving dinner.
4. Lenore was listening to the teacher. Lenore was taking notes.
Lenore was listening to the teacher **and** taking notes.

Which example in each pair above sounds more professional and grown-up? Why?

Notice that you use a comma (,) before **and** when it's needed to make the meaning clear.

Writing Practice

Use **and** to combine the two sentences in each pair below into one sentence.

Examples: ■ Sam played tennis. Sam played golf.

Sam played tennis and golf.

■ Tina is a swimming instructor. Jorge is a lifeguard.

Tina is a swimming instructor, and Jorge is a lifeguard.

1. My grandmother visited over the holidays. My grandfather visited over the holidays.

2. I swept up the leaves. Tim trimmed the bushes.

3. She applied for the job. She waited for the answer.

4. Selma wrote the play. Her friends played the different roles.

Use what you've learned.

5. The truck entered the driveway. The truck knocked over the mailbox.

6. Luis gobbled up the sandwich. Luis asked for another one.

7. Jake plays the bongos. Ellie plays the flute.

8. The puppy curled up at my feet. The puppy went to sleep.

Partner Work

1. With your partner, read aloud the sentences you wrote for **Writing Practice**. Discuss any likenesses and differences between your answers.
2. Is it possible to use **and** too much? The answer is yes. As an example, read aloud the paragraph below.

We got on the bus and traveled to the museum and went inside and saw the exhibit of dinosaurs and ate lunch and then we went to the IMAX theater and saw a movie about dolphins and then we hopped a bus and went home and we told my Dad about what we learned.

With your partner, rewrite the paragraph above to make four or more sentences. Use **and** only where it seems correct to combine sentences. Eliminate the other **ands**.

Writing on Your Own

First, read the following paragraph to yourself. Then improve it by

- combining some sentences with **and**, and
- eliminating **and** in some places to make a new sentence.

Write your revised paragraph on the lines provided.

Jon went to the yard sale. I went to the yard sale. We saw a lot of beat-up furniture and some stained and dirty clothing and Jon decided it wasn't worth staying any longer and he said he wanted to go home and then all of a sudden I saw a beautiful painting. The painting was of horses running along the shore. The painting cost only \$8.00 and I bought it and I hung it in my bedroom.

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Writing Practice

1. My grandmother and grandfather visited over the holidays.
2. I swept up the leaves and Tim trimmed the bushes.
3. She applied for the job and waited for the answer.
4. Selma wrote the play, and her friends played the different roles.
5. The truck entered the driveway and knocked over the mailbox.
6. Luis gobbled up the sandwich and asked for another one.
7. Jake plays the bongos and Ellie plays the flute.
8. The puppy curled up at my feet and went to sleep.

Partner Work

2. Paragraphs will vary. *Example:*

We got on the bus and traveled to the museum. We went inside and saw the exhibit of dinosaurs. After we ate lunch, we went to the IMAX theater and saw a movie about dolphins. Then we hopped a bus and went home. We told my Dad about what we learned.

Writing on Your Own

Paragraphs will vary. *Example:*

Jon and I went to the yard sale. We saw a lot of beat-up furniture and some stained and dirty clothing. Jon decided it wasn't worth staying any longer, and said he wanted to go home. Then all of a sudden I saw a beautiful painting of a horse running along the shore. It cost only \$8.00. I bought it and hung it in my bedroom.