



From
Straight Forward English Series:
Capitalization & Punctuation

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Punctuation

Commas: Compound Sentences

Use a **comma** before conjunctions like *and* , *or* , and *but* in a compound sentence.

A compound sentence expresses two complete ideas.

Texas is a big state. It has many people. =2 sentences, 2 complete ideas
Texas is a big state, **and** it has many people. =1 sentence, 2 complete ideas

Joel can go to the store. He can stay home.
Joel can go to the store, **or** he can stay home.

She went to the store. It was closed.
She went to the store, **but** it was closed.

Commas in Compound Sentences, Exercise 1. Combine the following sentences using a comma and the word in parentheses.

1. Many people live here. They work in town. (and)
2. The houses are old. They are built well. (but)
3. Some people have lawns. Some people have gardens. (and)
4. Should our neighbor plant cabbage? Should our neighbor build a fence? (or)
5. You can ride the horse. I will watch. (and)
6. Our house borders a road. It also borders a pasture. (but)
7. You can go to the store by the road. You can go through the pasture. (or)
8. The road is quicker. The pasture has more things to see. (but)
9. Will you go home? Will you stay here? (or)
10. He took the path. She walked down the road. (and)

Commas in Compound Sentences, Exercise 2. What are the two complete sentences that make up each compound sentence? Remove the comma and conjunction. Capitalize the first word for both sentences.

1. The dog slept, and the cat played.
2. Maria went home, and she went to sleep.
3. He dressed himself, and he ate breakfast.
4. The light turned green, but the cars did not move.
5. He is coming now, or he will be left behind.



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Review

Underline all nouns. Capitalize all proper nouns and change singular nouns to plural nouns where necessary.

We visited the two province of ontario and quebec on our vacation. We saw many sight, and we visited many city. In toronto, we sailed on lake ontario. We saw a game between the toronto blue jay and the new york yankee.

We drove to montreal by car. The trip took two day. I especially enjoyed stopping in many small town along the way.

Montreal is a fine city. We need to return and visit more. Our visit was too short. We flew home from montreal international airport after only one week.

Underline all concrete nouns. Circle all abstract nouns.

Our friendship has lasted a long time. We met in school. It was September. Elena was a new student.

Elena has quite an imagination. She will get a notion and do it. It is always an adventure to be with her.