

Punctuation Patterns

Note: These reference guides do not take the place of assignment guidelines



A compound sentence is a sentence that contains more than one subject, predicate, or both. Using a variety of sentence types, including compound sentences, within your writing can help improve flow and clarity. However, compound sentences can seem a little tricky, and it is not always easy to know how to punctuate or format them.

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|------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| | <i>for</i> | |
| | <i>and</i> | |
| | <i>nor</i> | |
| 1. Independent clause, | <i>but</i> | independent clause. |
| | <i>or</i> | |
| | <i>yet</i> | |
| | <i>so</i> | |

Example: John has a new van, *but* it does not run well.

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|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>therefore,</i> | |
| | <i>moreover,</i> | |
| 2. Independent clause; | <i>however,</i> | independent clause. |
| | <i>consequently,</i> | |
| | <i>nevertheless,</i> | |

Example: John has a new van; *however*, it does not run well.

3. Independent clause; independent clause.
Example: John has a new van; it does not run well.

4. Dependent clause, independent clause.
Example: When John gets a van, he is going west.

5. Independent clause *Subordinate conjunction* dependent clause.
Example: John is going west when he gets a new van.

Subordinate conjunctions signaling dependent clauses:

<i>after</i>	<i>though</i>	<i>so that</i>
<i>although</i>	<i>unless</i>	<i>why</i>
<i>as</i>	<i>until</i>	<i>when</i>
<i>because</i>	<i>whenever</i>	<i>wherever</i>
<i>before</i>	<i>while</i>	<i>since</i>
<i>if</i>		