

Boost Free Lessons - Year 9 English

Lesson 2: Connecting Ideas in Sentences

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Worked Example 1

Join these ideas using a coordinating conjunction.

The rehearsal ran late. Nobody complained.

1. Coordinating conjunctions join two complete ideas. The main ones are **and**, **but**, **so**, or **or**.
2. First work out the relationship. The second idea is unexpected after the first.
3. An unexpected result needs **but**, not *and* or *so*.
4. Put a comma before the conjunction when it joins two complete sentences.

The rehearsal ran late, but nobody complained.

Worked Example 2

Fix the problem in the sentence below.

Because the train was cancelled.

1. Read it aloud and ask whether it can stand alone. It cannot, so it is a **sentence fragment**.
2. *Because* makes the clause dependent, so it needs a main clause to complete it.
3. Either remove the joining word, or add the missing idea.
4. A complete sentence needs a subject, a verb, and a complete thought.

Model: Because the train was cancelled, we walked.

Remember: Use **and**, **but**, **so**, or **or** to join complete ideas, with a comma before the conjunction. A **fragment** cannot stand alone. Avoid repeating the same noun when a pronoun would do.



Question 1: Join or correct each of the following.

1. The power failed. We lit candles.

2. She studied for weeks. She still felt unprepared.

3. You can walk. You can catch the bus.

4. It rained all morning. The match was postponed.

5. Although the shop was closed.

6. Running down the street in the rain.

7. He apologised. She did not answer.

8. The lights went out. Nobody moved.



Question 2: Read the passage below, then answer the questions.

The team trained all summer. The team lost in the first round, but the team did not give up. Which nobody expected.

1. Find one coordinating conjunction in the passage.

2. Find one sentence fragment and rewrite it as a complete sentence.

3. Find one example of repetitive language and improve it.

4. Which two sentences could be joined? Write the joined version.

5. Why does the repetition in the passage weaken it?



Question 3: Answer the following questions.

1. Write two ideas joined by **so**.

2. Write a sentence fragment, then correct it.

3. Explain what makes a sentence complete.

4. Why is it a problem to repeat the same noun in every sentence?





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Answers and Model Responses: Connecting Ideas in Sentences**Question 1**

1. Model: The power failed, so we lit candles.
2. Model: She studied for weeks, but she still felt unprepared.
3. Model: You can walk, or you can catch the bus.
4. Model: It rained all morning, so the match was postponed.
5. Fragment. Model: Although the shop was closed, the lights were on.
6. Fragment. Model: She was running down the street in the rain.
7. Model: He apologised, but she did not answer.
8. Model: The lights went out, and nobody moved.

Question 2

1. Model: *but*, in the second sentence.
2. *Which nobody expected*. Model: Nobody expected it.
3. *The team* is repeated three times. Model: replace the second and third with *they*.
4. Model: The team trained all summer, but they lost in the first round.
5. Repeating the same noun makes the writing sound mechanical, and pronouns would carry the meaning more smoothly.

Question 3

1. Model response: The road was flooded, so we turned back.
2. Model response: Fragment: Waiting by the gate. Corrected: She was waiting by the gate.
3. A complete sentence needs a subject, a verb, and a complete thought that can stand on its own.
4. It sounds repetitive and slows the reader down. Pronouns and varied wording keep the writing clear without losing meaning.

