

The 4 Sentence Structures and Compound Sentences

A **compound sentence** is basically **2 simple sentences** joined by a **coordinating conjunction** known as the **FANBOYS (For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So)**. Remember to join the 2 sentences with a **comma (,)** in front of the conjunction.

Basic requirements:

2 complete sentences (each with a **subject** and a **verb** that make sense on their own)

1 of the FANBOYS

a comma in front of the coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS)

Examples of **compound sentences**:

1. The **dog** **ran** into the garage, **but** the **cat** **ran** into the bushes.
2. In the Spring, the **dog** **likes** to hang out in the garage, **yet** the **squirrels** **do** not.
3. The **dog** **likes** to eat his own food, **and** **he** **likes** to eat the cat's food, too.

Notice that a complete sentence (has a **subject**, a **verb**, and makes sense by itself) sits on each side of the coordinating conjunction.

Sometimes we can have **simple subjects** and **simple verbs** on both sides of our compound sentences:

Maria always **leaves** the house at 7 a.m., **so** she **can get** to work on time.

Coordinating conjunction can also join words and phrases as well as two complete sentences. Joining two subjects with one of the FANBOYS makes a compound subject. Joining two verbs can make a compound predicate. Having compound subjects and/or compound predicates doesn't mean we have a compound sentence. We only get a compound sentence when we connect two complete, independent sentences together with a coordinating conjunction.

We can have **compound subjects** and **compound verbs** on both sides of our compound sentences:

Maria and Esperanza **went** to the post office **and obtained** a passport, **so** they and their friends **can visit** Australia **and see** the Sydney Opera House.

Sometimes we can have **simple subjects** with **compound verbs**.

The **cat** **doesn't like** for the dog to eat his food **and gobbles** it down quickly, **or** the **cat** **carries** it away **and hides** it.

Sometimes we can have compound subjects with simple verbs:

Maria and Esperanza **obtained** a passport, **so** they and their friend **can visit** Australia.

Write three of *your own* **compound sentences**. Remember to use one of the **FANBOYS** and a **comma**!

1.

- 2.
- 3.