

ONE PAGE NOTES ON COMPOUND SENTENCES

TERMINOLOGY

- A **compound sentence** is a sentence...

- containing two or more independent clauses
- that share a related idea
- the independent clauses are joined by a comma **AND**...
- and a coordinating conjunction.

Example: The dog slept, and the cat ate.

As opposed to... a **simple** sentence with a **compound subject**.

Example: The dog and the cat slept.

As opposed to... a simple sentence with a **compound predicate**.

Example: The dog slept and ate.

As opposed to... a simple sentence with a **compound subject and a compound predicate**.

Example: The dog and the cat slept and ate.

This compound sentence has both compound subjects and compound predicates. It is not a simple sentence.
Jack and Jill went up the hill, and the Big Bad Wolf huffed, puffed, and blew the three little pigs' houses down.

As opposed to... a **comma splice error** is when two clauses are joined incorrectly by a comma without a coordinating conjunction. DO NOT DO THIS FOR IT IS VERY POOR GRAMMAR.

Example: The dog slept, the cat ate.

COMMA USAGE - A comma is placed between the end of each clause and before the coordinating conjunction.

AVOID THE FIRST TRAP! (Comma Splices)

If you place a comma without a coordinating conjunction, you will make the dreaded **comma splice error!** Avoid at all costs.

ERROR: The dog slept, the cat meowed.

AVOID THE SECOND TRAP! (Participial Phrases)

Students often confuse **participial phrases** with predicates. A participial phrase is a phrase that contains a verbal (or verb form) ending with -ing or -ed but does not contain another helping or linking verb to make it a predicate. Participial phrases look like predicates, but they are used as adjectives to describe a noun.

The Trap: The man **holding** the bow and arrow.
Better: The man **was holding** the bow and arrow.
Better: The man [holding the bow and arrow] **shot** the target.

Here the word "holding" is part of the gerund phrase but the predicate is the word shot. The main action that the man was doing was shooting. "Holding the bow" is just a description of the man.

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS BANK (F.A.N.B.O.Y.S.)

for	and	nor	but	or	yet	so
-----	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	----

