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Examples of combined sentences using verbs

Sentences must be combined to avoid the monotony that would surely result if all sentences were short and of equal length. (If you haven't read them yet, see the sections on avoiding sleeper style and sentence variations.) One of the writer's tasks is to use any music available to him in the language, and some of the language music lies in the rhythms of different sentence lengths and structures. Even poets who write within the formal limits and identity of the rhythm of the iambic pentameter sometimes strike a chord against this rhythm and change the structure of their clauses and the length of the sentence, thus keeping the text alive and the reader asleep. This section will examine some of the techniques that ordinary writers use to combine sentences.

Compound sentences A compound sentence consists of two or more independent clauses. This means that there are at least two units of thought in the sentence, one of which can stand in itself as its own opinion. Compound sentence clauses are separated by a semicolon (relatively rare) or joined by a coordination conjunction (which is, more often than not, preceded by a comma). And the two most common coordinating conjunctions are and and but. (The others are or, yet, anyway.) It's the simplest technique we have to combine ideas: Meriwether Lewis is rightly known for his trip to Louisiana purchase territory and beyond, but few people know about his contribution to natural science. Lewis was well trained by scientists in Philadelphia before his expedition and was by nature an interesting man. Note that and doing little more than link one idea to another, but also links, but it does more work in terms of establishing interesting relationships between ideas. And it is part of the direct language arsenal of children and dreams: one thing just comes after the other, and the logical relationship between ideas is not always obvious or important. Word, but (and other coordinators) is at a slightly higher level of argumentation. Click here to review the comma usage rules when you combine two independent clauses with a coordination conjunction. Store sentence elements In a sentence, ideas can be combined by stored different sentence elements: topics, verbs, objects, or entire predicateds, modifiers, etc. Note that when two such sentence elements are compounded with a coordination conjunction (as opposed to two independent compound sentence clauses), the conjunction is usually appropriate and no comma is required. Topics: When two or more people do parallel things, they can often be combined as a complex topic. Working together, President Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis persuaded Congress to raise money for the expedition. Objects: When an object(s) runs in parallel on two or more things, the objects can be combined. President Jefferson believed that up to the Canadian border. He also believed that this meant that he could claim all the land for the United States. President Jefferson believed that the waters in Missouri could reach as far as the Canadian border and that he could demand all this land for the United States. Note that objects must be parallel in construction: Jefferson believed it was true and true. If the facilities are not parallel (Jefferson was convinced of two things: that Missouri had reached the Canadian border and wanted to start an expedition during his tenure.) the verdict could go in vain. Click here to review the parallelism policy. Verbs and verbs: When an entity(s) does/does two things at once, ideas can sometimes be combined by store verbs and verbs. He studied biological and natural sciences. He learned to categorize and draw animals exactly. He studied biological and natural sciences and learned to categorize and draw animals thoroughly. Note that there is no preceding comma and taught connecting the complex elements above. In Philadelphia, Lewis learned to outline the movement of stars. He also learned to analyze their movements with mathematical precision. In Philadelphia, Lewis learned to chart and analyze the movement of stars with mathematical precision. OR — In Philadelphia, Lewis learned to plot stars and analyze their movements with mathematical precision. (Note in the latter version that we do not need to repeat to the incalculator to keep the form parallel.) Modifiers: When appropriate, modifiers such as prepositional expressions can be amplified. Lewis and Clark recruited their adventurers from riverside bars. They also used recruits from various military outposts. Lewis and Clark recruited their adventurers from riverside bars and various military outposts. Note that we do not need to repeat the preposition so that the ideas are successfully parallel in form. Subordinating One Clause to Another Act of Coordination clauses simply combines ideas; subordinating one clause to another establishes a more complex relationship between ideas, showing that one idea depends on the other in some way: chronological development, cause-and-effect relationship, conditional relationship, etc. William Clark did not officially become captain before the expedition. Captain Lewis more or less ignored this technical and treated Clark as equal in power and rank. Although William Clark did not officially receive the rank of captain before the expedition, Captain Lewis more or less ignored this technical and treated Clark as equal in power and rank. The explorers approached the floodwaters of Missouri. They discovered, in horror, that the rocky mountain band stood between them and their target, crossing the Pacific. As the explorers approached the Missouri caps, they discovered, to their dismay, that the Rocky Mountain range stood between them and their goal, crossing into the Pacific. When we use subordination clauses to combine ideas, punctuation rules are very important. It may be a good idea to review the definition of clauses at this point and the uses of the comma when specifying the introductory elements and in parentheses. Using Appositives to combine Appositive ideas is probably the most effective technique we have for combining ideas. A relevant or relevant phrase is renaming, re-identifying something earlier in the text. You may think of appositive as a modifying clause from which the clown machine (usually a relative pronoun and a connecting verb) has been removed. It is accurate often, but not always, to element parentheses that requires a pair of commas to set it from the rest of the sentence. Sacagawea, who was one of Charbonneau's Indian wives who was a French fur trader, accompanied the expedition as a translator. As a translator, she was accompanied by a pregnant 15-year-old Indian, Sacagawea, one of the wives of the French fur merchant Charbonneau. It should be noted that in the second sentence, above, the name Sacagawea is an element in parentheses (structurally the sentence appropriately identifies her as a pregnant, fifteen-year-old Indian woman), and therefore her name is selected by commas; Charbonneau's name, however, is necessary for the meaning of the sentence (otherwise, which furry entrepreneur are we talking about?) and is not blown up by a pair of commas. Click here for additional help in identifying and punctuation around items in parentheses. Using Participial Phrases to combine writer ideas can integrate the idea of a single sentence into a larger structure, transforming that idea into a modifying phrase. Captain Lewis allowed his people to make important decisions democratically. This democratic attitude fostered a spirit of community and commitment from Lewis's other explorers. By allowing his people to make important decisions democratically, Lewis promoted a community spirit and commitment among his fellow members. In the above sentence, the participial expression modifies the subject of the sentence, Lewis. Phrases like this are usually set off from the rest of the sentence with a comma. For more than two years, the expeditionary force has been completely untouched by the families. They completely put their faith in Lewis and Clark's leadership. Not once did they rebel against their power. Completely unrelated to their families for more than two years, the expedition's people put their faith in Lewis and Clark's leadership and never once rebelled against their power. Using absolute phrases to combine ideas Perhaps the most elegant - and most misunderstood - method of combining ideas is an absolute phrase. This expression, which is often found at the beginning of a sentence, consists of a noun expression of the subject and then, more often than not, by part names. Other modifiers can also be part of a phrase. However, there is no real verb in the absolute phrase and is always treated as an element in parentheses, an introductory modifier that is set by a comma. The absolute phrase can be confused with the participial phrase, and the difference between them is structurally small but significant. A participial expression does not contain a subject-partiel relationship of an absolute phrase; changes the subject matter of the following independent clause. On the other hand, an absolute expression changes the entire following clause. In the first combined sentence below, for example, an absolute expression modifies Lewis's subject, but also modifies the verb by telling us under what conditions or how or how disappointed the world is. The absolute phrase therefore modifies the entire next clause and should not be confused with the dangling participial, which must change the subject that follows directly. Lewis' fame and fortune were practically guaranteed by his exploits. Lewis disappointed the whole world by inexplicably not publishing his journals. His fame and fortune practically guaranteed by his exploits, Lewis disappointed the whole world by inexplicably not publishing his magazines. Lewis' long journey was finally over. His men in the Corps of Explorers were scattered. Lewis died a few years later on his way back to Washington, D.C., completely alone. His long journey ended and his men in the Discovery Corps scattered, Lewis died a few years later on his way back to Washington, D.C., completely alone. Same.

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