

Sentence Combining

1. You may combine two related sentences by taking key information from one and inserting it into the other.

EXAMPLE: The Spanish artist Joan Miro worked in many different media. Miro is a world-famous artist.

REVISED: The *world-famous* Spanish artist Joan Miro worked in many different media.

EXAMPLE: Miquel de Cervantes was born outside Madrid. He is the author of Don Quixote.

REVISED: Miquel de Cervantes, *the author of Don Quixote*, was born outside Madrid.

2. Related sentences may be combined by joining elements from each to form compound subjects, verbs, or objects.

EXAMPLE: Spain is on my list of places to go on vacation. Gibraltar is also on my list.

COMPOUND SUBJECT: **Spain and Gibraltar** are on my list of places to go on vacation.

EXAMPLE: We visited the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. Then, we toured the gardens and parks.

COMPOUND VERB: **We visited the Alhambra and toured the gardens and parks** in Granada, Spain.

3. Use coordinating conjunctions (*and, but, for, nor, or, so, or yet*) with a comma or semi-colon to join two or more independent clauses (*complete thoughts*).

EXAMPLE: Soccer is the most popular sport in Spain. Many cities have soccer stadiums that seat tens of thousands of spectators.

COMBINED: Soccer is the most popular sport in Spain, and many cities have soccer stadiums that seat tens of thousands of spectators.

4. Use a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb (*consequently, furthermore, however, otherwise, therefore*) to link two related ideas together.

EXAMPLE: We were exhausted after six days of touring. We went on to Madrid anyway.

COMBINED: We were exhausted after six days of touring; **nevertheless**, we went on to Madrid.

5. Use subordinating conjunctions to link two sentences together when one sentence explains more about an idea in another sentence

*Note: Adjective clauses answer *what kind?* or *which one?*

*Note: Adverb clauses answer *where, when, in what way,* or *why.*

as if	after	although	as
because	before	if	in order that
that	even though	since	while
unless	until	where	wherever
who	where	when	in what way
why	whom	whose	which

EXAMPLE: The Sahara is the world's largest desert. The Sahara includes portions of eleven countries.

COMBINED: The Sahara, which includes portions of eleven countries, is the world's largest desert.