



Conjunctions and Compound Sentences

About These Problems

This category includes the proper usage of the conjunctions "and", "but", "or", and "because." It also encompasses the proper usage and applications of compound sentences, which are two separate sentences combined into one. The last two things it encompasses are connecting fragments and using semicolons. The easiest way to solve these problems is to detect run-on sentences that ramble on and have multiple subjects and predicates. Practice using conjunctions does not just apply to compound sentences but multiple nouns and verbs with the tone of the sentence. If the tone is positive "and" is easier to describe positive things, but if the tone is negative, "but" is the better option.

Question. The deliberations for choosing the new club vice president took several hours and their choice in the end the members were happy with.

- A. hours and their choice in the end the members were happy with.
- B. hours, but in the end the members were happy with their choice.
- C. hours, or in the end the members were happy with their choice.
- D. hours, because in the end the choice the members were happy with.
- E. hours; the choice was happy with the members.

Answer. B: The second portion of the compound sentence does not keep in tone with the first sentence and uses passive voice. We need to use a conjunction and modify the location of the clause "in the end" and move members to the subject. This narrows it down to choices B–D. Taking several hours is negative and being happy with a choice is positive so only "but" works as the conjunction. The answer is B.

Question. Today most collegiate double-sports athletes must make a

A

B

C

choice between playing football or baseball. No Error

D

E

Answer. D: The tricky part of this question is the conjunction. A choice is made between option A AND option B. You choose option A or option B. The conjunction in the context is key.