

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

Using Commas With Coordinating Conjunctions

Name: _____

Coordinating conjunctions join two independent clauses to make a compound sentence. Use a comma between the first independent clause and the coordinating conjunction. **Example:** *My brother like the mountains, but I like the beach.*

To help you remember the coordinating conjunctions, think of the words "FAN BOYS".



For And Nor But Or Yet So



Combine the sentences using a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

1. I don't want to argue with you. I don't want to give in.

2. She had a lot of friends. She was a friendly girl.

3. I had a cute puppy. I lost him.

4. He studied for the test. He got a good grade.

5. Jim can boil eggs. Sally can make toast.

6. We can go to Disneyland. We can go to Sea World.

7. Dan moved to Michigan. He moved home again.

8. They didn't want to be late. They hurried.

9. Jill runs a mile every day. She swims on Fridays.

10. You can choose vanilla ice cream. You can choose chocolate.

Name _____ Date: _____

Comma Practice Worksheet 3

Rule: Commas are used with coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS) to combine two Independent Clauses together: IC, and IC.

DIRECTIONS:

- Add commas where necessary in the following sentences based on the rule above.
- If the sentence is correct, circle the number.
- Highlight both Independent Clauses for each compound sentence.

Example: I like coffee ,and Robert likes iced tea.

1. I am a wife and I am a mother.
2. I am fervently against discrimination of any kind to any group but I believe we're going just a bit overboard when the Bible is called sexist and rewritten.
3. All major religions have as their Almighty a paternal figure and I suggest that this state of affairs in no way diminishes the status of women.
4. The test doesn't seem too difficult but it may get harder.
5. I want a wife who will have arranged that the children are fed and ready for bed before my guests arrive so that the children do not bother us.
6. Glen refused to visit his sister because she was rude to him.
7. Teens watch movies at the theater or they rent movies and watch them at home.
8. We now have Tropical Storm Tommy and Hurricane Hilda and meteorologists can no longer be accused of casting aspersions on the feminine temperament.
9. I would like to go back to school so that I can become economically independent support myself and support those dependent upon me.
10. It may mean a cut in my wife's income from time to time but I guess I can tolerate that.

FANBOYS Conjunction Practice!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct FANBOYS conjunctions.

Word Bank: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

1. I was rushing to my appointment, _____ I still didn't make it on time.
2. I am going to pull my grades up in Math class, _____ next semester I will be on the honor roll.
2. I love going skiing, _____ I especially love skiing with my "boo."
3. I could eat the pizza right now, _____ I could save it for later.
4. Samantha doesn't like Marcus, _____ does she like Tyler.
5. I am hoping that Kyle will call me back, _____ I don't know if I am ready for a relationship.
6. I never drive to school, _____ I sometimes drive my mom to work.
7. Tianna did not want to go to prom alone, _____ did she want to go with Donald.
8. Damien got his picture taken with his girlfriend, _____ he didn't smile.
9. I got an A on my history test, _____ I even aced my ROTC inspection!
10. I could spend the night at my best friend's tonight, _____ I could go to the movies with my family.

Coordinating Conjunctions Worksheet

Fill in the coordinating conjunction (and, but, for, nor, so, or yet) that most logically links the two parts of each of the following compound sentences. Remember to insert a comma before each coordinating conjunction.

Example: Many people travel abroad to adopt children, for adopting internationally is often easier than adopting an American or European child.

1. Many people today desperately want children _____ they are unable to conceive a child.
2. For many of these people, adoption is the answer _____ a lot of them will choose international adoption.
3. Children adopted by Americans frequently come from orphanages in poor countries _____ starting a new life in the United States is not always easy for these children.
4. Loving parents and a stable home may seem like luxuries _____ the child is also leaving a familiar world behind.
5. Before the 1980s, adoption experts told adoptive parents to ignore their children's background _____ most children adopted internationally had no sense of their culture.
6. For example, either the Korean War orphans arriving in the United States in the 1950s were too young to remember Korea _____ they were urged to abandon any memories they had.
7. These Korean children were given American names _____ they often ended up living in towns where there were no other Asian children.
8. Today, adoptive parents usually try to find out all they can about their children's native country and language _____ teaching adopted children about their native culture is considered essential.
9. Adoptive parents often form support groups for adopted children from a particular country _____ in these groups, their children can meet others who have similar backgrounds.
10. Today's adoptive parents no longer ignore their children cultural backgrounds _____ do they try to make their children conform to an "American" standard.

NAME: _____

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction that *joins* two independent clauses.

(and, but, for, nor, or, so, yet)

Our flight arrived on time, **but** my brother was not there to pick us up.

Betty likes to eat pizza, **but** she likes spaghetti better.

DO NOT use a comma before a conjunction that *does not* join two independent clauses.

Our flight arrived on time **but** at the wrong gate.

Betty likes to eat pizza **and** spaghetti.

Rewrite each sentence using the correct punctuation.

1. We went fishing last Saturday but we didn't catch anything.

2. Mom sat down to pay the bills but she realized that she was out of checks.

3. Vasco jumped over the fence to chase a rabbit and then he saw the bull.

4. Breaking in new shoes is sometimes painful but it's worth it in the end.

5. John will have to go to summer school or he won't be able to start high school next year.

6. Candice love working with the student government and planned to join it again next year.

7. Sometimes I like to sing along with the radio and dance with the music.

8. Mrs. Bryant brought cookies to the party and she helped us clean up when it was over.

9. Mary went to the amusement park and she rode a huge roller coaster.

10. Sandra went shopping and skipping yesterday afternoon.

INTRODUCTORY PHRASES

Commas with Introductory Elements

14j. Use a comma after certain introductory elements.

(1) Use a comma to set off a mild exclamation such as *well*, *oh*, or *why* at the beginning of a sentence. Other introductory words, such as *yes* and *no*, are also set off with commas.

EXAMPLES Oh, I see. Yes, she has that book.

(2) Use a comma after an introductory phrase or clause.

EXAMPLES At the bend in the road, turn right. [two prepositional phrases]
Signaling carefully, she changed lanes. [participial phrase]
To water the garden, use the sprinkler. [infinitive phrase]
When the artists painted, they followed several rules. [adverb clause]

EXERCISE A In the following sentences, insert commas where they are needed. If a sentence is already correct, write C to the left of the item number.

Example 1. On the shores of the Nile, a great civilization was born.

1. No the Egyptians were not just farmers.
2. Concerned with the afterlife Egyptian rulers built great tombs for themselves.
3. Built for monarchs and nobles many great stone tombs contained supplies for use in the afterlife.
4. While he was alive the king had his picture painted.
5. On the wall of his tomb a picture shows the king hunting.
6. Well it shows how the king once hunted.
7. When I saw the jewels I thought the kings were rich.
8. Why they believed they could take jewels to the next life.
9. Based on things found in tombs the assumption can be made that they believed they could take almost everything!
10. In Egypt great riches have been found in these tombs.

EXERCISE B In the following paragraph, insert commas where they are needed.

Example [1] During the years of the Middle Ages, beekeeping was an important part of village life.

[11] Known as the beeward the village beekeeper kept the hives. **[12]** Before sugar was readily available the only sweetener people had was honey. **[13]** By supplying beeswax the beewards also met another key need of that time—they provided a raw material for making wax candles. **[14]** For most people in those days cheaper candles were made from tallow. **[15]** Extracted from animal fat tallow was also used to make soap.

Rule: Commas are used to separate an introductory element from the Independent Clause that follows it.

DIRECTIONS:

- Add commas where necessary in the following sentences based on the rule above.
- If the sentence is correct, circle the number.
- Highlight each Independent Clause.

Example: Since we left the house, I keep wondering if I turned off the oven.

1. When someone dies in the convalescent home where my grandmother lives the nurses rush to close all the patient's doors.
2. Having lost everything in the war my grandmother can offer me only her distant memories.
3. If agony and pain are part of Vietnamese culture pleasure is at the center of America's culture.
4. Even though I wanted to tell her that I wanted to die anywhere but in a convalescent home the soft moaning of a patient next door and the smell of alcohol wafting from the sterile corridor brought be back to reality.
5. After Heather sorted the laundry she realized that she needed detergent.
6. His fears creeping up on him Jordan looked nervous.
7. Studying for the comma quiz helped Jasmine improve her class grade.
8. When the sun sets people like to walk along the bike path.
9. Ann refused to visit her brother because he was rude to her.
10. Because of the traffic delays we may be late to dinner.

Name _____ Date _____

Commas after Introductory Clauses

Write an X in the answer column if the sentence has an error in the use of commas for introductory clauses. Then insert the missing commas. Write OK in the answer column if the sentence is correct. An example has been done for you.

X	0.	Even though the Grand Canyon is the most famous Kings Canyon in California is actually the deepest canyon in the country.
	1.	Because it has no roads or trails Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve in Alaska is best for experienced travelers.
	2.	As lava flows to the ocean and cools Hawaii Volcanoes National Park slowly gets larger and larger.
	3.	Even the giant saguaro cactus in Arizona can grow up to 50 feet tall.
	4.	Although it is one of the smallest national parks Acadia National Park in Maine receives almost 3 million visitors each year.
	5.	Until I visited North Dakota's Theodore Roosevelt National Park I had never seen buffalo roam.
	6.	Because millions of wild salmon make their way upstream to lay their eggs in June the early summer is the best time to visit Alaska's Lake Clark.
	7.	Before we left for Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas my father warned us that we might not get to swim.
	8.	If you're looking for a hot location Death Valley in California has the highest recorded temperatures in the county.
	9.	Some of the world's tallest trees can be found in Redwood National Park in California.
	10.	As we climbed Mount McKinley I began to understand why the American Indians had called it "The Great One."

Practice What You Learned

Write a sentence that begins with the following introductory clauses. An example has been done for you.

0.	if we don't see any moose today If we don't see any moose today, we will surely see some by the end of our trip.
1.	when we hiked in the Grand Canyon
2.	because the trail was closed
3.	after we left Yellowstone National Park

Name _____ Date _____

Commas after Introductory Clauses

Write an X in the answer column if the sentence has an error in the use of commas for introductory clauses. Then insert the missing commas. Write OK in the answer column if the sentence is correct. An example has been done for you.

X	0.	As long as it doesn't rain, the play will be performed in the park.
	1.	Because of the traffic it took us an entire hour to get out of the city after the parade.
	2.	My favorite time of year is winter when the city puts lights on the trees downtown.
	3.	Before they put in a new bus stop near his house Matt used to ride his bike to work.
	4.	Because business was slow the bookstore closed early today.
	5.	As soon as the wind dies down the power company start repairing the telephone pole.
	6.	Until I took a lesson from Mr. Steden I thought that Ms. Price was the best piano teacher in town.
	7.	The city installed a traffic light at the intersection after the accident occurred.
	8.	Since it began lending movies the library has been much busier.
	9.	Although the lake is probably frozen by now my parents want us to wait another week before we go ice-skating.
	10.	When he was first elected our mayor came to school to introduce himself and talk about his job.

Practice What You Learned

Write a sentence that begins with the following introductory clauses. An example has been done for you.

0.	if it does not rain tomorrow If it does not rain tomorrow, we should ride our bikes to the beach.
1.	after I am finished with soccer practice
2.	because it is always crowded
3.	although the police officer looks intimidating

INTERRUPTERS

Commas with Interrupters B

14i. Use commas to set off an expression that interrupts a sentence.

(3) Use commas to set off words of direct address.

EXAMPLES When did you get here, That notebook, Jeff, is mine.
Aiyana?

(4) Use commas to set off parenthetical expressions.

A *parenthetical expression* is a remark that adds information or shows a relationship between ideas.

EXAMPLES That vase, **I believe**, dates from the twelfth century.
On the other hand, it may not be as old as I think.

EXERCISE Add commas where necessary in the following sentences.

Example 1. This tree, in my opinion, is the most beautiful in the yard.

1. Dr. Phillips should I make an appointment with you next week?
2. The race therefore was equally challenging to all the contestants.
3. Are you going to join us for tea Mrs. Collins?
4. The rowers of course were exhausted after the three-hour race.
5. Small dogs for example can be great pets for the elderly.
6. The students generally speaking enjoy a great deal of variety in the lesson plans.
7. Have you read this article yet Janet?
8. Mrs. Wyatt is this painting yours?
9. Those antiques by the way are mostly forgeries.
10. The mayor on the other hand disagreed with the committee's decision.

Rule: Commas are used to surround non-restrictive elements (interrupters) that land in the middle of an Independent Clause.

DIRECTIONS:

- Add commas where necessary in the following sentences based on the rule above.
- If the sentence is correct, circle the number.
- Highlight the Independent Clause of each item (not the interrupter).

Example: I saw Mrs. Boyles, my English teacher, working in her office.

1. She talks now mainly of her hometown Bac-Lieu with its river and green rice fields.
2. That single stroke which paralyzed her forced my grandmother into a convalescent home.
3. That America relies upon the pleasure principal and happy endings in its entertainment does not however assist us when we face the reality of the convalescent home.
4. People who invest their money wisely can retire without much fear.
5. Fish as far as we know breathe only underwater.
6. Calcium of course is very important in a woman's diet.
7. Dave Frickle who coaches track and field at BC is also the cross country coach.
8. Wasco a small town off of the 99 highway is Pedro's place of birth.
9. The possibility that physical or psychological differences of any sort exist strikes the particular fear that this will be equated with superiority or inferiority of certain groups.
10. You can buy tickets for the *Cirque du Soleil* a dramatic mix of circus arts and street entertainment at any Las Vegas ticket master.

WORKSHEET 4

Using Commas with Interrupters (Rule 13 i)

EXERCISE Most of the following sentences contain nonessential phrases or clauses. Add commas where they are needed. If a sentence is correct, write *C*.

EXAMPLE _____ 1. The crowd, seeing Tyrone on his feet, broke into applause.

- _____ 1. Geronimo who led the Chiricahua Apaches was a great leader.
- _____ 2. The salad that she made for the potluck dinner was a colorful mix of tomatoes, artichoke hearts, carrots, and black olives.
- _____ 3. Hercules whose picture can be found on many ancient Greek pottery pieces was the son of Zeus.
- _____ 4. In Mexico City, a man hoping for a sale wore hats stacked one on the other.
- _____ 5. Why is it do you think that she always slept with the doll lying by her side?
- _____ 6. The bride Satori who was from Osaka chose a traditional wedding garment.
- _____ 7. That new ad you saw which appeared in this morning's paper is bringing in many new customers.
- _____ 8. Have I introduced you to Mr. Perkins our kind and generous neighbor?
- _____ 9. Ms. Ortega who was our teacher last year will teach at Adams Middle School next year.
- _____ 10. This bronze statue cast in over a dozen pieces will be put together next month.
- _____ 11. Do you think that the audience excited by the show will give the performers a standing ovation?
- _____ 12. A goal even if it is small is best approached in stages.
- _____ 13. That last Easter egg carefully placed by Rudy certainly is well hidden.
- _____ 14. Pocahontas's story which has been told for over three hundred years sometimes strays from the facts.
- _____ 15. We met the woman who will be the violin soloist with the orchestra.
- _____ 16. Will this new information learned only an hour ago interest the voters?
- _____ 17. Lonnie dreaming of flying in a spacecraft stared up at the stars.
- _____ 18. The house's owners who like to do such work themselves are painting.
- _____ 19. All the animals shown on the facing page are expert swimmers and divers.
- _____ 20. These ancient Chinese tombs discovered only a few years ago are still being excavated.