

Compound Sentences

A compound sentence contains two simple sentences (independent clauses) joined by a coordinator. The coordinators are as follows: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.

Example:

She went to the cinema, but Mary went home.

She went to the cinema (simple sentence) /

Mary went home = simple sentence /

but = coordinator

They were sick, so they went to the hospital.

They were sick = simple sentence /

they went to the hospital = simple sentence /

so = coordinator

Remember!

Put a comma (,) before the coordinator joining two simple sentences.

When using a coordinator, remember to use subject-verb agreement. He didn't visit his friend, but she will tomorrow.

14. Put a (,) and write the compound sentences and underline the coordinators.

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|---|---|
| 1. Charles moved, put it in the bin. | 2. The child was so tired. |
| 3. My brother is tall/young. | 4. Would you like tea or do you prefer coffee? |
| 5. She was happy, so she visited her son. | 6. It was cold, and she went to the library. |
| 7. Do you like the red and white green dress? | 8. Jane doesn't like cats. |
| 9. My brother didn't visit his son. | 10. She got married, but she didn't work on it. |

15. Fill in the blanks with the correct coordinator.

1. We were out of milk, _____ we had to leave early in the night.
2. I don't get my money _____ all my books have dried.
3. I was going along the highway, _____ the truck was changing.
4. We usually sleep _____ seven to eight TV.
5. Mike was very kind, _____ he couldn't sleep.
6. The children got excited, _____ they stopped for the cinema.
7. Steve was always quiet, _____ he was willing to be later.
8. Tom didn't want to read his notes, _____ he pretended to be ill.
9. He left and I never saw him again, _____ he thought it was the perfect moment, _____ he had _____ the best evening.
10. Dad wanted another car, _____ he wanted to buy _____.

Use of coordinators

- and → addition
- but → contrast
- or → alternative
- yet → contrast
- so → result
- for → reason
- nor → negating the second of two negative clauses

