Using Conjunctions

A **conjunction** is a word that is used to combine sentences, phrases, or words.

Writers will often use conjunctions to combine two short sentences into one longer sentence.

The three most common conjunctions are **and**, **but**, and **or**.

two short sentences: C.J. wanted to go skateboarding with his friends. It was raining outside.

one longer sentence: C.J. wanted to go skateboarding with his friends, but it was raining outside.

When your new sentence contains two complete sentences, use a comma before the conjunction.

Combine each pair of sentences with the conjunction in parenthesis to make a new sentence.

1. My pet goat will eat almost anything. He likes vegetables best. (but)

2. My family lives in the country. We have a lot of land. (and)

3. We could go to the playground. We could go to the movies. (or)

Using Conjunctions

4. Matthew went to the beach. Matthew learned to surf. (and)

5. Mary wanted to drive to the store. Her car wouldn't start. (but)

6. Do you want pancakes for breakfast? Would you rather have eggs? (or)

7. I need to bring a calculator to school. I need to bring a ruler to school. (and)

8. Some kids were afraid to dive into the pool. I wasn't afraid. (but)

ANSWER KEY

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The three most common conjunctions are **and**, **but**, and **or**.

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Combine each pair of sentences with the conjunction in parenthesis to make a new sentence.

1. My pet goat will eat almost anything. He likes vegetables best. (but)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

My pet goat will eat almost anything, but he likes vegetables best.

2. My family lives in the country. We have a lot of land. (and)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

My family lives in the country, and we have a lot of land.

3. We could go to the playground. We could go to the movies. (or)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

We could go to the playground or the movies.

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ANSWER KEY

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 Matthew went to the beach. Matthew learned to surf. (and)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

Matthew went to the beach and learned to surf.

5. Mary wanted to drive to the store. Her car wouldn't start. (but)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

Mary wanted to drive to the store, but her car wouldn't start.

6. Do you want pancakes for breakfast? Would you rather have eggs? (or)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

Do you want pancakes for breakfast, or would you rather have eggs?

7. I need to bring a calculator to school. I need to bring a ruler to school. (and)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

I need to bring a calculator and a ruler to school.

8. Some kids were afraid to dive into the pool. I wasn't afraid. (but)

Note: Answers may vary slightly.

Some kids were afraid to dive into the pool, but I wasn't.