

Unit 2: The Mind's Eye

Compound Sentences

Compound sentences let writers show relationships between ideas. These sentences have more than one clause. The most common words used to connect these clauses are *and*, *or*, *but*, and *so*.

A Read the sentences. Read Sentence 3 again and circle the word that is used to connect the clauses. Then underline the subject and verb in each clause.

1. I usually remember people's names.
2. I almost never remember phone numbers.
3. I usually remember people's names, but I almost never remember phone numbers.

B Read the information in the chart. Then finish each sentence with a clause.

Connecting word	<i>and</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>but</i>	<i>so</i>
Relationship	addition	choices or possibilities	contrast	cause and effect
Example	Sam went to the doctor's office, <i>and</i> the doctor examined him.	We can walk to the store, <i>or</i> we can take the bus.	I like seafood, <i>but</i> my sister won't eat it.	Raymond lost his job, <i>so</i> he's looking for a new one.

1. Tara cooked dinner last night, and _____.
2. Next summer may be hotter than this one, or _____.
3. Some animals can survive in the city, but _____.
4. The shopping mall will be closed tomorrow, so _____.

C Write a paragraph about an event that you will never forget in your notebook. Include a topic sentence and supporting sentences. Try to write at least three compound sentences.

Writing Tips

1. In most compound sentences, we use a comma before the connecting word.
2. When the clauses in a compound sentence are very short, the comma is sometimes omitted.
The night was cold and the sky was cloudy.
3. Writers sometimes begin a new sentence with a connecting word—usually because a single sentence would be too long.
That evening, we decided to stop by Sheri's house to wish her a happy birthday, so we had to walk a long way. And it was not a nice night for walking.