

- Remind students that they can combine sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into another.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Two Sentences: I read an article about butterflies. It was fascinating.

Sample Solution: I read a *fascinating* article about butterflies.

Two Sentences: Serena and I performed our skit today. We performed it for the rest of the class.

Sample Solution: Serena and I performed our skit *for the rest of the class* today.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each pair of sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into the other. You may need to add commas or change the forms of words.
- Write your answers on your paper.

1 Richard plays the clarinet. He plays it in the school band.

2 The library has the print version of the encyclopedia. It also has the CD version.

3 Our field trip is scheduled for Thursday. It is to the state capital.

4 The pickup truck belongs to my aunt. It is parked in our driveway.

5 Flo sent me a get-well card. Len sent me a get-well card.

- Remind students that they can combine sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into another.
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Sentence Combining

MODEL

Two Sentences: Fog blanketed the highway. It was thick and gray.

Sample Solution: *Thick, gray* fog blanketed the highway.

Two Sentences: Ms. Pappas showed us slides of her trip to Greece. She showed them in social studies class.

Sample Solution: *In social studies class* Ms. Pappas showed us slides of her trip to Greece.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each pair of sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into the other. You may need to add commas or change the forms of words.
- Write your answers on your paper.

- 1 Some of the commercials were quite clever. They were shown during the Super Bowl.
- 2 Would you like some of this soup? It is chicken noodle soup, and it is homemade.
- 3 Dr. Jenkins told me everything had gone well. He told me after the operation.
- 4 When will the elections be held? The elections will be for class officers.
- 5 We will donate the money to the homeless shelter. The money is from our car wash.

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Sentence Combining

MODEL

Two Sentences: As a group, the students wrote a play. They are in the eighth grade.

Sample Solution: As a group, the *eighth-grade* students wrote a play.

Two Sentences: Tranh made a jewelry box for Cam. She is his older sister.

Sample Solution: Tranh made a jewelry box for Cam, *his older sister*.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each pair of sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into the other. You may need to add commas or change the forms of words.
- Write your answers on your paper.

- 1 You'll never guess whom I saw Saturday. I saw them at the movies.
- 2 Mr. Pamonicutt spoke to our class today. He is the county sheriff.
- 3 Coretta made a model for science class. It is of a water molecule.
- 4 We especially enjoyed the movie's special effects. They are remarkable.
- 5 The horse is sleek and beautiful. It is a thoroughbred.

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- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Two Sentences: My cousin sent me a birthday card. She lives in Hawaii.

Sample Solution: My cousin *in Hawaii* sent me a birthday card.

Two Sentences: Raul's stamp collection is growing rapidly. It was started last year.

Sample Solution: Raul's stamp collection, *started last year*, is growing rapidly.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each pair of sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into the other. You may need to add commas or change the forms of words.
- Write your answers on your paper.

- 1 Mrs. Washington gave me this book of poems. She is my mother's boss.
- 2 Max received an award for citizenship. The American Legion gave him the award.
- 3 Our basketball team won last night's game. It advanced to the regional finals.
- 4 We made posters for the dance. We made them in art class.
- 5 Janell and Enrique spotted a deer. They were walking through the forest preserve.

- Remind students that they can combine sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into another.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Two Sentences: This candleholder is silver. It was made in New Mexico.

Sample Solution: This candleholder, *made in New Mexico*, is silver.

Two Sentences: Jack tasted the won-ton soup. He pronounced it delicious.

Sample Solution: *Tasting the won-ton soup*, Jack pronounced it delicious.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each pair of sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into the other. You may need to add commas or change the forms of words.
- Write your answers on your paper.

- 1 My bicycle needs new tires. It is a hand-me-down from my sister.
- 2 Eldon found several books on raising rabbits. He was searching the library's catalog.
- 3 We heard three mariachi bands. We heard them at the Cinco de Mayo festival.
- 4 The items will be auctioned off tonight. They were donated by local businesses.
- 5 Our tour of Mammoth Cave was extremely interesting. It was led by an experienced guide.

- Remind students that they can improve short, choppy sentences by combining them to create more interesting sentences and that different conjunctions convey different meanings.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

I will play the guitar. Felicia recites her poem.

Sample Solutions:

I will play the guitar *before* Felicia recites her poem.

(The guitar playing will take place before the reciting.)

I will play the guitar *until* Felicia recites her poem.

(The guitar playing will stop when the reciting begins.)

I will play the guitar *unless* Felicia recites her poem.

(The guitar playing will not take place if the reciting does.)

DIRECTIONS

- Combine the two short sentences in each set three different ways. The clue sentences will help you decide which conjunctions to use.

- 1 Sam will study for math. Sam will study for science.
 - A Studying for math will occur before studying for science.
 - B Studying for math will not take place if studying for science does.
 - C Studying for math will end when studying for science begins.
- 2 Reiko will practice the flute. She helps her father cook supper.
 - A Reiko will not practice the flute if she helps her father cook.
 - B Reiko will practice the flute but will stop when she begins to help her father cook.
 - C Reiko will practice the flute and then help her father cook.

- Remind students that they can improve short, choppy sentences by combining them to create more interesting sentences and that different conjunctions convey different meanings.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

The dog barks. It is lonely.

Sentence Solutions:

The dog barks *because* it is lonely. (Being lonely is the reason the dog barks.)

The dog barks *if* it is lonely. (On condition that it is lonely, the dog barks.)

The dog barks *whenever* it is lonely. (Every time the dog is lonely, it barks.)

DIRECTIONS

- Combine the two short sentences in each set three different ways. The clue sentences will help you decide which conjunctions to use.

- 1 Our family reunion will be well attended. It is in Ames, Iowa.
 - A The location is the reason it will be well attended.
 - B Every time the reunion is in Iowa, it is well attended.
 - C The reunion may be well attended.
- 2 The coastal cities are evacuated. A hurricane approaches.
 - A The approaching hurricane is the reason the coastal cities are evacuated.
 - B Every time a hurricane approaches, the coastal cities are evacuated.
 - C On the condition that a hurricane approaches, the coastal cities are evacuated.

- Remind students that they can improve short, choppy sentences by combining them to create more interesting sentences and that different conjunctions convey different meanings.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Frances will buy the sweater. She gets paid on Friday.

Sentence Solutions:

Frances will buy the sweater *whether* she gets paid on Friday *or not*. (Frances will buy the sweater even if she isn't paid.)

Frances will buy the sweater *after* she gets paid on Friday. (The purchase will be made after Frances gets paid.)

Frances will buy the sweater *when* she gets paid on Friday. (The purchase will be made at the time Frances gets paid.)

DIRECTIONS

- Combine the two short sentences in each set three different ways. The clue sentences will help you decide which conjunctions to use.

- 1 Tyrone will share his lunch with you. You are hungry.
 - A Tyrone will share his lunch with you even if you aren't hungry.
 - B Tyrone will share his lunch at the time you are hungry.
 - C You will be hungry, then Tyrone will share his lunch with you.
- 2 You and I will remain friends. You move away.
 - A The friendship will remain at the time you move away.
 - B You will move away and then your friendship with the speaker will continue.
 - C Your friendship with the speaker will continue even if you move away.

- Remind students that they can improve short, choppy sentences by combining them to create more interesting sentences and that different conjunctions convey different meanings.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Sasha will not talk. She is reading.

Sample Solutions:

Sasha will not talk *since* she is reading. (Reading is the reason for Sasha's silence.)

Sasha will not talk *while* she is reading. (As Sasha reads, she will not talk.)

Sasha will not talk *whenever* she is reading. (Any time Sasha reads, she will not talk.)

DIRECTIONS

- Combine the two short sentences in each set three different ways. The clue sentences will help you decide which conjunctions to use.

- 1 The baby is in his highchair. His parents are cooking supper.
 - A The reason the baby is in his highchair is that his parents are cooking supper.
 - B The baby is in his highchair as his parents are cooking supper.
 - C Every time the baby's parents are cooking supper, the baby is in his highchair.
- 2 My mother is pleased. I do my chores.
 - A The speaker's mother is pleased as the speaker does chores.
 - B Doing chores is the reason the speaker's mother is pleased.
 - C The speaker's mother is pleased every time chores are done.

- Remind students that they can improve short, choppy sentences by combining them to create more interesting sentences and that different conjunctions convey different meanings.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Lani requests dessert. It is fresh strawberries.

Sample Solutions:

Lani requests dessert *because* it is fresh strawberries. (The reason that Lani requests dessert is that it is fresh strawberries.)

Lani requests dessert *even though* it is fresh strawberries. (In spite of the fact that dessert is fresh strawberries, Lani requests it.)

Lani requests dessert *unless* it is fresh strawberries. (Lani does not request dessert when it is fresh strawberries.)

DIRECTIONS

- Combine the two short sentences in each set three different ways. The clue sentences will help you decide which conjunctions to use.

1 Meg will ride her bike. She is in a hurry.

A Being in a hurry will not prevent Meg from riding her bike.

B Being in a hurry is the reason Meg will ride her bike.

C Being in a hurry will prevent Meg from riding her bike.

2 We will go sailing. The winds are gusty.

A The gusty winds are the reason for sailing.

B In spite of the fact that the winds are gusty, the speakers will go sailing.

C Gusty winds will prevent sailing.

- Students can combine these sentences in numerous ways by using conjunctions, varying punctuation, and inserting words and phrases.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Original Sentences: The Sahara is in North Africa.

It is now a huge desert region.

It wasn't always a desert.

Sample Solution 1: The Sahara, now a huge desert region in North Africa, wasn't always a desert.

Sample Solution 2: Although the Sahara in North Africa is now a huge desert region, it wasn't always a desert.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each set of sentences two different ways. Give the two sentences completely different beginnings.
- Use conjunctions, insert words or phrases, add commas or semicolons, or change the forms of words.

1 The Sahara was covered with grasses and trees.

It supported many different kinds of animals.

This was until about six thousand years ago.

2 The climate changed.

The change was slow.

The climate became hot and dry.

3 Conditions grew worse.

The animals moved elsewhere.

They moved in search of food and water.

- Students can combine these sentences in numerous ways by using conjunctions, varying punctuation, and inserting words and phrases.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Original Sentences: My stepdad bought me a boomerang for my birthday

It is a flat, curved device.

It is made of wood.

Sample Solution 1: For my birthday, my stepdad bought me a boomerang; it is a flat, curved device made of wood.

Sample Solution 2: My stepdad bought me a boomerang, a flat, curved device made of wood, for my birthday.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each set of sentences two different ways. Give the two sentences completely different beginnings.
- Use conjunctions, insert words or phrases, add commas or semicolons, or change the forms of words.

1 I played with the boomerang all afternoon.

My sister played with it all afternoon, too.

We had a lot of fun.

2 We both tried hard.

She couldn't get it to return to her.

I couldn't get it to return to me.

3 Our fun ended.

I somehow managed to land the boomerang.

I landed it high up in an oak tree.

- Students can combine these sentences in numerous ways by using conjunctions, varying punctuation, and inserting words and phrases.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Original Sentences: Lightning hit the transformer.

The power went out.

We were left without lights or heat.

Sample Solution 1: When lightning hit the transformer, the power went out, leaving us without lights or heat.

Sample Solution 2: The power went out when lightning hit the transformer; we were left without lights or heat.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each set of sentences two different ways. Give the two sentences completely different beginnings.
- Use conjunctions, insert words or phrases, add commas or semicolons, or change the forms of words.

1 Mom lit the fireplace.

Dad made peanut-butter-and-banana sandwiches.

He made them for all of us.

2 We wrapped up in blankets.

We gathered around the fireplace.

We ate our picnic supper.

3 We sang camp songs.

We sang them until the power came back on.

We sang them to drown out the howling of the wind.

- Students can combine these sentences in numerous ways by using conjunctions, varying punctuation, and inserting words and phrases.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Original Sentences: Sequoia trees are large.

They are found in California.

They are named for the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet.

Sample Solution 1: Large sequoia trees, found in California, are named for the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet.

Sample Solution 2: Named for the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet, large sequoia trees are found in California.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each set of sentences two different ways. Give the two sentences completely different beginnings.
- Use conjunctions, insert words or phrases, add commas or semicolons, or change the forms of words.

1 There were once many kinds of sequoias.

Today only two kinds remain.

They are the redwood and the giant sequoia.

2 Redwoods grow up to 300 feet tall.

They may have trunks more than 10 feet across.

They are an awesome sight to behold.

3 Giant sequoias are not as tall as redwoods.

Their trunks are much larger in diameter.

The trunk of one giant sequoia measures 37.3 feet across.

- Students can combine these sentences in numerous ways by using conjunctions, varying punctuation, and inserting words and phrases.
- Examples of sentence solutions are presented in the Answer Key.

Sentence Combining

MODEL

Original Sentences: Stonehenge is a structure in England.

It is ancient.

Many mysteries surround it.

Sample Solution 1: Stonehenge is an ancient structure in England; many mysteries surround it.

Sample Solution 2: Many mysteries surround Stonehenge, an ancient structure in England.

DIRECTIONS

- Combine each set of sentences two different ways. Give the two sentences completely different beginnings.
- Use conjunctions, insert words or phrases, add commas or semicolons, or change the forms of words.

1 The structure consists of massive stones.

The stones are arranged in circles.

The structure is located on a plain in southwestern England.

2 Archaeologists are scientists.

They study ancient peoples.

They think the arrangement of the stones forecast the movements of the sun and the moon at certain times of the year.

3 Stonehenge may have been used for religious ceremonies.

The ceremonies took place before the Romans conquered England.

They conquered it in A.D. 43.

Teaching Notes

Sentence Combining

Overview

The fifteen transparencies that follow provide a variety of activities designed to increase sentence-combining skills.

Types of Sentence-Combining Activities

Three basic types of sentence-combining activities are included.

- On five transparencies students are directed to combine pairs of sentences by inserting a word or phrase from one sentence into another:

Two Sentences: Louisa bought a new skirt. It was purple.

Sample Solution: Louisa bought a new *purple* skirt.

- On five transparencies students are given clues and directed to combine two sentences to create a particular meaning:

Two Sentences: I'm serving a casserole. Lee is a vegetarian.

Sample Solutions: I'm serving a casserole *if* Lee is a vegetarian.
(The speaker is not sure whether Lee is a vegetarian.)

I'm serving a casserole *unless* Lee is a vegetarian.
(The speaker will serve something else if Lee is a vegetarian.)

- On five transparencies students are given three short sentences and directed to combine them in different ways:

Original Sentences:

Science is my favorite subject.

I have science second period.

We do experiments and take field trips during science.

Sample Solution 1:

Science, my second period class, is my favorite subject because we do experiments and take field trips.

Sample Solution 2:

I have science second period; it is my favorite subject because we do experiments and take field trips.

Answers

Examples of sentence solutions are included on the Answer Key pages that follow.

Sentence Combining

Transparency 77

- 1 Richard plays the clarinet in the school band.
- 2 The library has the print and the CD versions of the encyclopedia.
- 3 Our field trip to the state capital is scheduled for Thursday.
- 4 The pickup truck parked in our driveway belongs to my aunt.
- 5 Flo and Len sent me get-well cards.

Transparency 78

- 1 Some of the commercials shown during the Super Bowl were quite clever.
- 2 Would you like some of this homemade chicken noodle soup?
- 3 After the operation Dr. Jenkins told me everything had gone well.
- 4 When will the elections for class officers be held?
- 5 We will donate the money from our car wash to the homeless shelter.

Transparency 79

- 1 You'll never guess whom I saw at the movies Saturday.
- 2 Mr. Pamonicutt, the county sheriff, spoke to our class today.
- 3 Coretta made a model of a water molecule for science class.
- 4 We especially enjoyed the movie's remarkable special effects.
- 5 The horse, a thoroughbred, is sleek and beautiful.

Transparency 80

- 1 Mrs. Washington, my mother's boss, gave me this book of poems.

- 2 Max received an award for citizenship from the American Legion.
- 3 Our basketball team won last night's game, advancing to the regional finals.
- 4 In art class we made posters for the dance.
- 5 Walking through the forest preserve, Janell and Enrique spotted a deer.

Transparency 81

- 1 My bicycle, a hand-me-down from my sister, needs new tires.
- 2 Searching the library's catalog, Eldon found several books on raising rabbits.
- 3 We heard three mariachi bands at the Cinco de Mayo festival.
- 4 The items donated by local businesses will be auctioned off tonight.
- 5 Our tour of Mammoth Cave, led by an experienced guide, was extremely interesting.

Transparency 82

- 1 A Sam will study for math before he studies for science.
- 1 B Sam will study for math unless he studies for science.
- 1 C Sam will study for math until he studies for science.
- 2 A Reiko will practice the flute unless she helps her father cook.
- 2 B Reiko will practice the flute until she helps her father cook supper.
- 2 C Reiko will practice the flute before she helps her father cook supper.

Transparency 83

- 1 A Our family reunion will be well attended because it is in Ames, Iowa.
- 1 B Our family reunion will be well attended whenever it is in Ames, Iowa.

- 1 C Our family reunion will be well attended if it is in Ames, Iowa.
- 2 A The coastal cities are evacuated because a hurricane approaches.
- 2 B The coastal cities are evacuated whenever a hurricane approaches.
- 2 C The coastal cities are evacuated if a hurricane approaches.

Transparency 84

- 1 A Tyrone will share his lunch with you whether you are hungry or not.
- 1 B Tyrone will share his lunch with you when you are hungry.
- 1 C Tyrone will share his lunch with you after you are hungry.
- 2 A You and I will remain friends when you move away.
- 2 B You and I will remain friends after you move away.
- 2 C You and I will remain friends whether you move away or not.

Transparency 85

- 1 A The baby is in his highchair since his parents are cooking supper.
- 1 B The baby is in his highchair while his parents are cooking supper.
- 1 C The baby is in his highchair whenever his parents are cooking supper.
- 2 A My mother is pleased while I do my chores.
- 2 B My mother is pleased since I do my chores.
- 2 C My mother is pleased whenever I do my chores.

Transparency 86

- 1 A Meg will ride her bike even though she is in a hurry.

- 1 B Meg will ride her bike because she is in a hurry.
- 1 C Meg will ride her bike unless she is in a hurry.
- 2 A We will go sailing because the winds are gusty.
- 2 B We will go sailing even though the winds are gusty.
- 2 C We will go sailing unless the winds are gusty.

Transparency 87

The following solutions are suggestions. Students' answers may vary but should retain the meaning of the original sentences.

- 1 Covered with grasses and trees until about six thousand years ago, the Sahara supported many different kinds of animals. Until about six thousand years ago, the Sahara was covered with grasses and trees; it supported many different kinds of animals.
- 2 Slowly, the climate changed, becoming hot and dry. The climate changed slowly; it became hot and dry.
- 3 Conditions grew worse, and the animals moved elsewhere in search of food and water. As conditions grew worse, the animals moved elsewhere in search of food and water.

Transparency 88

The following solutions are suggestions. Students' answers may vary but should retain the meaning of the original sentences.

- 1 My sister and I played with the boomerang all afternoon; we had a lot of fun. Playing with the boomerang all afternoon, my sister and I had a lot of fun.

- 2 Although we both tried hard, neither she nor I could get it to return to us.
We tried hard, but neither she nor I could get it to return to us.
- 3 Our fun ended when I somehow managed to land the boomerang high up in an oak tree.
When I somehow managed to land the boomerang high up in an oak tree, our fun ended.

Transparency 89

The following solutions are suggestions. Students' answers may vary but should retain the meaning of the original sentences.

- 1 While Mom lit the fireplace, Dad made peanut-butter-and-banana sandwiches for all of us.
Mom lit the fireplace, and Dad made peanut-butter-and-banana sandwiches for all of us.
- 2 After we wrapped up in blankets and gathered around the fireplace, we ate our picnic supper.
Wrapped up in blankets, we gathered around the fireplace and ate our picnic supper.
- 3 We sang camp songs to drown out the howling of the wind until the power came back on.
To drown out the howling of the wind, we sang camp songs until the power came back on.

Transparency 90

The following solutions are suggestions. Students' answers may vary but should retain the meaning of the original sentences.

- 1 Although there were once many kinds of sequoias, today only two kinds remain, the redwood and the giant sequoia.

There were once many kinds of sequoias, but today, only two kinds remain, the redwood and the giant sequoia.

- 2 Growing up to 300 feet tall, redwoods may have trunks more than 10 feet across; they are an awesome sight to behold.
Redwoods, which may grow up to 300 feet tall and have trunks more than 10 feet across, are an awesome sight to behold.
- 3 Giant sequoias are not as tall as redwoods, but their trunks are much larger in diameter; the trunk of one giant sequoia measures 37.3 feet across.
Although giant sequoias are not as tall as redwoods, their trunks are much larger in diameter; the trunk of one giant sequoia measures 37.3 feet across.

Transparency 91

The following solutions are suggestions. Students' answers may vary but should retain the meaning of the original sentences.

- 1 The structure, located on a plain in southwestern England, consists of massive stones arranged in circles.
Consisting of massive stones arranged in circles, the structure is located on a plain in southwestern England.
- 2 Archaeologists, scientists who study ancient peoples, think the arrangement of the stones forecast the movements of the sun and the moon at certain times of the year.
Archaeologists are scientists who study ancient peoples; they think the arrangement of the stones forecast the movements of the sun and the moon at certain times of the year.
- 3 Stonehenge may have been used for religious ceremonies before the Romans conquered England in A.D. 43.
Before the Romans conquered England in A.D. 43, Stonehenge may have been used for religious ceremonies.