

USING CONNECTING WORDS

7g If two sentences have the same subject, you can combine them by making a compound verb. If the sentences have the same verb, you can combine them by making a compound subject.

ORIGINAL The moose scratched its head on a small tree. The moose caught its horns in the tree.

COMBINED The moose **scratched** its head on a small tree and **caught** its horns in the tree.

ORIGINAL Tran entered a cooking contest. Lita entered a cooking contest.

COMBINED **Tran and Lita** entered a cooking contest.

7h Sometimes you may want to combine two related sentences that express equally important ideas. You can connect the two sentences by using a comma and *and*, *but*, or *or*. The result is a compound sentence.

ORIGINAL Today I won the race. Who knows what tomorrow will bring?

COMBINED Today I won the race, **but** who knows what tomorrow will bring?

7i Other times you may want to combine two sentences that are related in a special way. One sentence helps explain the other by telling how, where, why, or when.

A good way to combine these sentences is to add a connecting word that shows how they are related. In this kind of sentence combining, you create a complex sentence.

ORIGINAL Navajo Code Talkers invented a secret code. This code helped the United States in World War II.

COMBINED Navajo Code Talkers invented a secret code **that** helped the United States in World War II.

EXERCISE 7 Combining Sentences by Joining Subjects and Verbs

On your own paper, combine each of the following pairs of sentences by using the conjunction in parentheses. If the sentences have the same verb, combine them by joining the two subjects. If the sentences have the same subject, combine them by joining the two verbs.

- EX. 1. The fireworks were pretty. The fireworks were loud. (Use *but*)
1. *The fireworks were pretty but loud.*
1. We raise goats on our farm. We grow cotton. (Use *and*.)
 2. The Allegheny River runs through Pittsburgh. The Monongahela River runs through Pittsburgh. (Use *and*.)
 3. Jamil's mother might drive us to the mall. Jamil's uncle might drive us to the mall. (Use *or*.)
 4. Chitsa would like to ski more often. She lives in Florida. (Use *but*.)
 5. Sabina's mother makes her own flour tortillas. Sabina's mother lets us eat as many as we want. (Use *and*.)
 6. Manuela will play center. Manuela will replace the goalie. (Use *or*.)
 7. My friend Leonor is from Honduras. My friend Felix is from Honduras. (Use *and*.)
 8. Maska does not enjoy rock-climbing. She is good at the sport. (Use *but*.)
 9. Duke Ellington was a pianist. Duke Ellington composed many songs. (Use *and*.)
 10. Braids would suit you well. Hair combs would suit you well. (Use *or*.)

EXERCISE 8 Combining Complete Sentences

On your own paper, combine each pair of sentences below by making one sentence. Use the connecting word in parentheses.

- EX. 1. I want to visit Maine. I want to see a real moose. (Use *to*.)
1. *I want to visit Maine to see a real moose.*
1. Ms. LaFrance came into the room. We began our lesson. (Use *when*.)
 2. Sasha wants to be an astronaut. She needs to go to college. (Use *so*.)
 3. I wanted to go to Len's birthday party. I have a cold. (Use *but*.)
 4. Everybody is singing. We're celebrating Carl's birthday. (Use *because*.)
 5. I get hungry. I play in the snow. (Use *whenever*.)