The Writing Center

How to Put Clauses Together: Coordinating, Subordinating, and More

Basic Punctuation Patterns:

1. SV. SV. (Simple Sentence)
2. SV; SV. (Compound Sentence)

Relationship	**3. Coordinating Conjunctions (FANBOYS)**	**4. Subordinating Conjunctions**	**5. Conjunctive Adverbs**	**6. Correlative Conjunctions**
Addition	and		also, in addition, furthermore, moreover	not only … but also both … and
Comparison		as … as, as if, as though	similarly, likewise	
Contrast	but	although, though, even though, whereas, while	however, in contrast, on the other hand, nevertheless	
Surprising idea	yet			
Reason	for	because, since		
Condition		if, unless, whether, that		
Result	so		therefore, thus, hence, otherwise, consequently, as a result	
Place		where, whenever		
Time		after, before, until, since, as, when, while, whenever, as soon as	then, next, later, earlier, afterwards, subsequently	
Choice	or			either … or whether … or
Negation	nor			neither … nor
Purpose		so that		
Punctuation	SV, (Coord. Conj.) SV.	SV (Subord. Conj.) SV. or (Subord. Conj.) SV, SV.	SV; Conj. Adv., SV.	Co Conj. SV, Co Conj. SV.
Sentence Type	Compound	Complex	Compound	Correlative

LEGEND:

Coord. Conj.: Coordinating Conjunction

Subord. Conj.: Subordinating Conjunction

Conj. Adv.: Conjunctive Adverb

Co. Conj.: Correlative Conjunction

SV: Independent Clause = IC

Subord. Conj. + SV: Dependent Clause = DC

Glossary:

A **clause** is a group of words that has a subject and a verb.

An independent clause (IC) has a subject and a verb and a complete thought. It can stand by itself.

A dependent clause (DC) has a subject and a verb, but it does not have a complete thought. It cannot stand by itself.

*** CHECK THE BACK FOR PUNCTUATION EXAMPLES**

Examples of Sentence Variety in Punctuation

Legend:

1. Subject
2. Verb

1. SV. SV.

- The weather is pleasant today**.** I would like to go for a swim.
- The weather is not looking favorable today**.** We should not go to the beach.

2. SV; SV.

- The weather is pleasant today**;** I would love to be swimming at the beach.
- We are definitely planning a beach trip today; would you like to join us?

3. SV, (Coordinating Conjunction) SV.

- The weather is pleasant today**,** ***and*** I would like to go for a swim.
- I do not want to go to the beach**,** ***nor*** do I want to go for a swim.
- The weather is pleasant today**,** ***so*** I am planning to go to the beach.
- I would like to go for a walk**,** ***yet*** the weather is not looking favorable.

4a. (Subordinating Conjunction) SV, SV. (DC, IC.)

- ***Because*** the weather is not looking favorable today**,** we should not go to the beach.
- ***Although*** the weather is beautiful today**,** we should stay home and finish cleaning.

4b. SV (Subordinating Conjunction) SV. (IC DC.)

- We should stay home and clean ***so that*** we have enough time to finish our chores.
- We will go play outside ***if*** the weather becomes more favorable.

5. SV; Conjunctive Adverb, SV.

- The weather is beautiful today***; therefore,*** I will ride my bike to the beach.
- I want to ride my bike tomorrow***; on the other hand,*** I should study for my exams next week.

6. Correlative Conjunction SV, Correlative Conjunction SV.

- ***Not only*** did we forget to do our chores yesterday, ***but*** we ***also*** forgot to study for the quiz.
- We ***either*** go to the beach**,** ***or*** we stay home and clean.