

# Writing Compound Sentences

Grade 3 • ELA • Joining two simple sentences with a comma and the word and, but, or or • Standards: L.3.1h, L.3.1i

*Join each pair of sentences into one compound sentence. Use a comma and one of these joining words: and, but, or or.*

1. The dog barked. The cat ran away.
2. I like pizza. My brother likes tacos.
3. We can play outside. We can watch a movie.
4. The sun was shining. The birds were singing.
5. I wanted to go swimming. The pool was closed.
6. You can have an apple. You can have an orange.
7. My sister studied hard. She passed her test.
8. The movie was long. It was very exciting.
9. We could walk to the park. We could ride our bikes.
10. The baby was tired. She did not want to sleep.
11. Dad made breakfast. Mom set the table.
12. I can finish my homework now. I can do it after dinner.

# Answer Key — Writing Compound Sentences

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. The dog barked, and the cat ran away. *(These two actions happened one after the other, so 'and' connects them.)*
2. I like pizza, but my brother likes tacos. *(These two ideas show a contrast, so 'but' is the correct joining word.)*
3. We can play outside, or we can watch a movie. *(These are two choices, so 'or' connects them.)*
4. The sun was shining, and the birds were singing. *(Both things were happening at the same time, so 'and' joins them.)*
5. I wanted to go swimming, but the pool was closed. *(The second idea contrasts with the first, so 'but' is needed.)*
6. You can have an apple, or you can have an orange. *(This shows two choices, so 'or' is the joining word.)*
7. My sister studied hard, and she passed her test. *(The second action is a result of the first, connected with 'and'.)*
8. The movie was long, but it was very exciting. *(These two ideas contrast each other, so 'but' connects them.)*
9. We could walk to the park, or we could ride our bikes. *(These are two different options, so 'or' is correct.)*
10. The baby was tired, but she did not want to sleep. *(The second idea is unexpected based on the first, so 'but' shows the contrast.)*
11. Dad made breakfast, and Mom set the table. *(Both actions happened together, so 'and' joins them.)*
12. I can finish my homework now, or I can do it after dinner. *(These are two different time choices, so 'or' connects them.)*