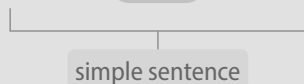


## Writing compound sentences

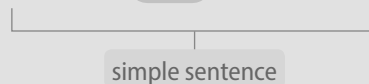
Short simple sentences are a good way to write a clear message. However, too many short simple sentences can be boring to read. You can make your writing more interesting by using **compound sentences**.

Compound sentences are made up of two simple sentences joined by co-ordinating conjunctions such as *and*, *but* and *or*. Compound sentences can improve the flow of your writing and link ideas.

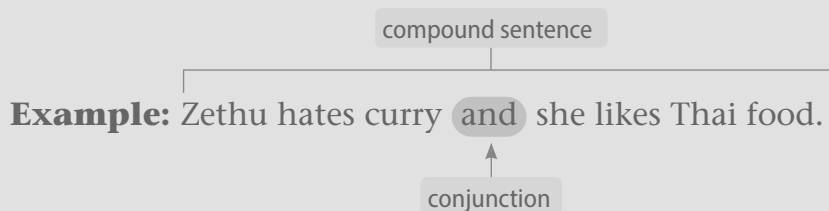
**Example:** Zethu **hates** curry.



Luxolo **likes** Thai food.



You can use the conjunction *and* to join the two simple sentences and make one longer sentence that links more than one idea.



The co-ordinating conjunctions *and*, *but* and *or* join sentences and change the meanings of sentences:

- *and* adds more information, for example: Zethu likes tea *and* Luxolo likes coffee.
- *but* adds opposite or contrasting information, for example: Zethu likes tea *but* she doesn't like rooibos tea.
- *or* provides a choice, for example: Do you like tea *or* do you prefer coffee?

1. Answer True or False for the following statements about compound sentences.
  - a) A compound sentence is two complete sentences joined by a conjunction. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) A compound sentence has at least two subjects and two verbs. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) The conjunction *but* shows choice. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Place a tick ✓ next to the compound sentences. Place a cross ✗ next to the simple sentences.
  - a) I love chocolate cake. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) My favourite cake is chocolate. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) I love cake and my favourite is chocolate cake. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which sentence best completes the compound sentence below?  
Tick your choice. Write out the complete compound sentences.

a) I wanted to go to Durban but ...

☐

I went.

☐

I had no money.

☐

I had money.

---

b) Sam loves his pet cat and ...

☐

he doesn't.

☐

he looks after her carefully.

☐

he does.

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4. Join the following simple sentences together to make a compound sentence. Choose from the conjunctions *and*, *but* and *or*. Write the sentences on the lines below.

a) I love sweets. They are unhealthy.

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b) My mother went to the supermarket. She took a list with her.

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c) I can visit Hlubi first. I can visit my aunt first.

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d) I can use simple sentences in my writing. I can use compound sentences to make it more interesting.

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e) Sizwe plays soccer. Unathi prefers playing rugby.

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f) The teacher gave us new books. She gave us pencils.

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g) Thembis0 went to Mpumalanga. He visited the Kruger National Park.

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