Lesson 3: Combining Sentences

How to combine sentences: Inserting words
Combine the following short sentences by inserting the word in italics into the first sentence. Hints in parentheses tell how to change word forms.

1. My grandfather is an excellent singer. He mostly sings the blues.

2. The oil seeped out of the engine. It seeped at a slow rate. (Change slow to slowly.)

3. The plant has long leaves. The leaves have points on them. (Change points to pointed.)

How to combine sentences: Inserting phrases
Combine the following short sentences by inserting the phrase in italics into the first sentence. Add commas where necessary. Hints in parentheses tell how to change word forms.

1. The blizzard hit the city. It hit in the middle of the night.

2. We are taking care of Chewy. Chewy is Dianne’s pet hamster.

3. She learned the names of all the bones. She studied every night. (Change studied to studying.)

How to combine sentences: Using and, but, or or
Combine the following short sentences by forming a compound subject or a compound verb. Be prepared to explain your answers.

1. Dolphins are warm-blooded. Porpoises are warm-blooded.

2. You can clean your room now. You can wait until after lunch.

3. Juan bought a bicycle. Juan did not ride it.
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How to combine sentences: Using and, but, or or

Combine the following short sentences by forming a compound sentence. Be prepared to explain your answers.

1. The blinds were closed. The doors were locked.

2. The mail carrier has arrived. He does not have the letter.

3. Becky will draw the map herself. If not, Jim will help her.

How to combine sentences: Using subordinate clauses

Combine the following short sentences by turning the second sentence into a subordinate clause and attaching it to the first. The hints in parentheses tell you how to start the subordinate clause.

1. Many visitors arrived. The gates opened. (Use before.)

2. The Aztecs practiced a religion. It affected every part of their lives. (Use that.)

3. We stopped at a roadside stand. There we bought some apples. (Use where.)