

# Commas B

**23h.** Use a comma before *and, but, for, nor, or, so, or yet* when it joins independent clauses in a compound sentence.

**EXAMPLES** Joshua's uncle drove us to the skating rink, and he decided to skate with us.  
Ariel took her umbrella, for it looked like rain.

**EXERCISE A** Underline the conjunction in the sentences that follow. Then, add commas where necessary. If a sentence needs no comma, write C to the left of the item number.

**Example 1.** Some people enjoy long car trips, but others get restless in the car.

1. Our family planned a driving trip so we needed maps.
2. Mom looked carefully but couldn't find Elgin.
3. She put on glasses for the print was tiny.
4. The scenery was great yet my sister was restless.
5. Is that normal or is something wrong with the car's engine?
6. Carla noticed I forgot my pencil so she lent me one of hers.
7. My cousin Cary writes music and plays in a band.
8. He invited us to listen but we had no time.
9. Who woke us up and why must we leave early?
10. Yoko is not a good traveler nor am I.

**EXERCISE B** Combine two sentences to make a compound sentence. Include commas as needed.

**Example 1.** Rain was pouring down. The football game continued. Rain was pouring down, yet the football game continued.

11. I brought a new camera. It broke. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. It rained on Sunday. We were disappointed. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. The mountains were snowy. The weather didn't seem very cold. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. I can borrow skis. Maybe I can rent some. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Mariana spotted a fire tower. Dad saw a deer. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## End Marks and Abbreviations, p. 279

### EXERCISE A

1. Please set the clock on the VCR for me.
2. The listing says “6:30 on ch. 5,” but I’ll be at the gym then.
3. We will record the film and watch it later.
4. It is about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
5. Send your request to the following address:  
1010 Butler St., Orlando, FL 32887.
6. What fascinating classes hers must be!
7. Sara read one of her poems at Mr. Bannerjee’s retirement party.
8. Have you read *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?
9. Oh no—watch out!
10. Pick up those clothes, Rita.

### EXERCISE B

What a crazy day this has been! The Cedar Ave. bus left early. Wasn’t I lucky that Dr. and Mr. Moreno came by and drove me to school? We got to school by 8:00, but it was closed because of a heating problem. The principal, Martin Crowe, Sr., stood out front and sent everyone home. I hope this means that I can give my UNICEF presentation next Friday.

## Commas A, p. 280

### EXERCISE A

*Optional commas are underscored.*

1. Cars, trucks, and buses were stranded by the storm.
2. Mrs. Ortega won more votes than Mr. Harris, Miss Steinberg, or Dr. Gladstone.
3. Scallops, oysters, herring, and shrimp are displayed in the fish-market window.
4. One tall, weary man wearing a hat dropped a silver coin into the kettle hanging by the door.
5. The chairperson’s responsibilities included calling the meeting to order, asking for the minutes, and announcing new officers.

6. Howie’s dogs are friendly, obedient, and loyal to him and his family.
7. The zoo director had to feed the animals, guide visitors, and keep the grounds safe and clean.
8. A sleek, powerful submarine slipped into the sea.
9. Many white, purple, and yellow crocuses grew on the hill.
10. Todd’s uncle asked who Rory was, when she had arrived, and why she was asleep on the porch.

### EXERCISE B

*Optional commas are underscored.*

Have you heard about the new shopping mall? It is a big, exciting place! It has department stores with clothing, furniture, and sporting goods. It even has specialty shops, such as those that sell only music boxes, rare comic books, organic health food, shoes, or baseball caps. It has a noisy, crowded food court that is filled with the smell of warm French bread. This weekend my father, sister, and I are going to find running shoes, a music box with a ballerina, and crunchy trail mix. Why don’t you come with us?

## Commas B, p. 281

### EXERCISE A

1. Our family planned a driving trip, so we needed maps.
2. Mom looked carefully but couldn’t find Elgin.
3. She put on glasses, for the the print was tiny.
4. The scenery was great, yet my sister was restless.
5. Is that normal, or is something wrong with the car’s engine?

6. Carla noticed I forgot my pencil, so she lent me one of hers.
7. My cousin Cary writes music and plays in a band.
8. He invited us to listen, but we had no time.
9. Who woke us up, and why must we leave early?
10. Yoko is not a good traveler, nor am I.

**EXERCISE B** *Conjunctions may vary.*

11. I brought a new camera, but it broke.
12. It rained on Sunday, and we were disappointed.
13. The mountains were snowy, yet the weather didn't seem very cold.
14. I can borrow skis, or maybe I can rent some.
15. Mariana spotted a fire tower, and Dad saw a deer.

**Commas C, p. 282**

**EXERCISE A**

1. The Johnston City pool, built ten years ago, is a great place to swim.
2. City residents, who are allowed to swim free, use the pool all summer.
3. Our annual swim meet, which was postponed, will be next month.
4. Did you see Sheri, my neighbor, do a triple flip?
5. Mr. Epstein, who is a retired firefighter, teaches the beginning swimmers.

**EXERCISE B**

6. The park equipped with a pool is the one we choose.
7. The pool water, sparkling in the sunshine, invites me to jump in.
8. Only students who have paid their fees can attend.
9. How would you, an experienced instructor, educate swimmers about safety?

10. Should we ask Mrs. Sims, who walks every day, to join us?
11. The lifeguard wearing blue shorts is the strictest one.
12. He stresses good behavior, which is important for everyone's safety.
13. A child who is frightened can usually be calmed.
14. The third diving board, which is the highest, is reserved for experienced divers.
15. Nina Parks, the Sentryville Middle School swimming champion, is swimming laps.

**Commas D, p. 283**

**EXERCISE A**

1. The time of our club meeting, by the way, has been changed.
2. Juan, the glove on the other hand of the mannequin does not match this one.
3. The landscape architect said, "These pansies, for example, would look wonderful there."
4. I didn't know, Lorena, that you could sing so beautifully!
5. I suppose that you, Rudolfo, will fill in for Perrin while she is on vacation.
6. On the other hand, that old barn looks quite picturesque.
7. Marina, may I borrow a pencil?
8. You must, of course, be home by curfew.
9. In fact, these are the cathedral's original stained-glass windows.
10. I'm not sure, Kelly, whether I want to go to the game.

**EXERCISE B**

Habitat for Humanity first caught my attention, I suppose, with its Web site. Victor, do you know how to search for information on the Internet? To tell the truth, searching on the Internet is quite simple. I will, however, e-mail you the URL you need. On this Web site, Victor, you will find lots of information.