



Combining Sentences with the help of Coordinating Conjunctions

The simple, little conjunctions are called **coordinating conjunctions**.

Rule #1: When a *coordinating conjunction* connects two **independent clauses**, it is often (but not always) accompanied by a comma.

Examples of use:

1. Buck ran as hard as he could, **but** Dolly couldn't catch him.
2. Buck ran with all his might, **yet** he could only stay one step ahead.

Coordinating Conjunctions

and but or yet for nor so

3. Buck trusted that Francois would save him, **so** he ran by with Dolly right on his tail.

Rule#2: A comma is also correct when *and* is used to attach the last item of a serial list (more than 2).

Examples of use:

4. Billie, Joe, **and** Pike were all part of the pack lead by Buck
5. The victory would not be determined by the capture of the snowshoe hare, **but** it would be settled by the battle between Buck **and** Spitz.
6. Keeping discipline **and** providing leadership were skills Buck would soon need to demonstrate if the team was going to be successful without Spitz.



That Buck thinks he's the boss of us all.



Directions: Join the sentences below using coordinating conjunctions. You may create either compound sentences or compound subjects and predicates or both as needed.

1. Francois put Sol-leks in the lead dog position. Buck thought that the lead position was his.

2. Francois chased Buck in vain for nearly an hour. Perrault chased Buck in vain for nearly an hour.

3. Buck surprised both of his masters. Buck quickly whipped the team back into top form.

4. Pike may have still been a malingerer. Pike pulled harder than ever before after being yanked around in the traces by Buck.

Now, try it with a subordinating conjunction.

Use both **coordinating** and **subordinating conjunctions** to combine the following groups of related sentences.



5. The work on the mail train was hard. The work on the mail train was repetitive. Buck rose up to the challenge

6. There were fierce fighters among the five-score dogs. Buck defeated the three fiercest. When he bristled and showed his teeth, the others got out of his way.

7. Buck was not homesick. Buck sometimes thought of home. He often thought of the man in the red sweater, Curly, and the great fight with Spitz.

8. Buck dreamed while sitting by the fire. He could see a man that was different from the men he knew. This man seemed afraid of the darkness.

9. This man was almost naked. This man was hairy. This man held a club clinched tightly in his hand.

10. This waking dream was so vivid. He would act like he had been sleeping. The half-breed cook would yell at him to wake up.

11. The drivers were worried about Dave. They tried to let him rest by letting him trot behind the sled. Dave would attack Sol-leks who had been put in his place.

