

# Lesson 21 COMBINING TRUNKS

In the next lessons we will learn how to add variety to our writing. In this lesson we will learn how to join two trunks. Then we will join two trunks that have the same subject but two verbs.

First let's review. What is a trunk? A trunk is group of words that can be made into a yes/no question without having any words left over.

TRUNK:

Dogs like bones. → Do dogs like bones?

Not a TRUNK, **missing a subject:** (it)

Is raining again. → Is <sub>^</sub> raining again?

Not a TRUNK, **word left over:**

Because I forgot my umbrella. → Did I forget my umbrella? (because)

## Combining Trunks with FANBOYS

A trunk is a simple English sentence. FANBOYS (coordinating conjunctions) are often used *to combine two trunks and show how they are related*. Here are the FANBOYS and what they mean. The most common are in **bold**.

<b>F</b>	for	—cause	He always gave money to beggars, <u>for</u> he was kind.
<b>A</b>	and	—	The homework was hard, <u>and</u> the test was harder.
<b>N</b>	nor	—negative choice	He did not dance, <u>nor</u> did he ride a horse well.
<b>B</b>	but	—contrast, yet	They like summer, <u>but</u> they don't like winter.
<b>O</b>	or	—choice	Would you like to stay, <u>or</u> do you want to go home?
<b>Y</b>	yet	—contrast, but	The child didn't speak well, <u>yet</u> her brother understood her.
<b>S</b>	so	—result	The night was cold, <u>so</u> Laura put on her hat and gloves.



About **nor**:

- Nor is an "n" word, don't use another "n" word.
- After "nor" use question order (X-Word first).
- "Nor" is a bit old fashioned and is often seen in academic writing.

Compare: He did not dance, **nor** did he ride a horse well.

He did not dance, **and** he didn't ride a horse well, **either**.

## Commas

If you are combining two TRUNKS with FANBOYS, use a comma at the end of the first TRUNK—before the FANBOYS. This helps the reader's eyes find the next subject.

I'll use T for TRUNK.

T, but t.      Liz loves tea, **but** she hates coffee.

comma      subject

T, but t.      Sam loves coffee, **but** Liz hates coffee.

Note: If the subject of both trunks is the same person or thing, you can delete the second subject and leave out the comma.

Liz loves tea, but **she** hates coffee. OR Liz loves tea but hates coffee.

**Lesson 21 Exercise 1** What is "and" connecting? The word "and" can connect two trunks, two nouns, two verbs, etc.

Find the "and" in each sentence and decide what it is connecting. Use the choices in the box. Write your choice in the blank.

VxD	gerunds as objects <i>(what?)</i>	proper nouns as main subjects	uncountable nouns as objects <i>(what?)</i>
trunks	noun boxes after one preposition	describers as complements (after "be")	noun boxes that answer <i>when?</i>

$$VxO = VxO$$

Example: "and" joins two VXOs They read and watched TV.

"and" joins two 

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 |  | Pass the salt and pepper, please.                       |
| 2 |  | Sam and Liz moved to New Jersey.                        |
| 3 |  | The movie plays at 8:20 and 10:15.                      |
| 4 |  | The office is open Friday morning and Friday afternoon. |
| 5 |  | The weather is hot and humid.                           |
| 6 |  | We enjoy singing and dancing.                           |
| 7 |  | We sang and danced all night.                           |
| 8 |  | We sang, and we danced.                                 |

**Lesson 21 Exercise 2**

Which of the FANBOYS would you use? Circle the word that makes sense.

1. He ate too much last night, (but, so) he had a stomachache this morning.
2. He made me angry, (or, so) I left the room.
3. Did she call, (but, or) did she text?
4. I can't come on Tuesday, (but, or) I can come on Wednesday.
5. Jun doesn't have time to study, (so, yet) she always has time to party.
6. The rude child never said "please," (or, nor) did the child ever say "thank you."



### Lesson 21 Exercise 3

T, + t. Use *and*, *but*, *so*, *or* to combine these sentences. Don't forget the comma.

Example: I'm hungry. I'm going to eat something.  
*I'm hungry, so I'm going to eat something.*

1. It was raining hard. The picnic was cancelled.
2. Jenni wanted to eat cake. She also wanted to lose weight.
3. She woke up late. She had to hurry.
4. We could go out for Italian food. We could cook at home.
5. Tim wanted to go home. His girlfriend wanted to stay at the party.
6. Maybe I'm crazy. Maybe you are.
7. I really want to learn English. I'm reading a lot.
8. My sister plays the piano. My brother plays the oboe.

### Lesson 21 Exercise 4

Write four T, + t. sentences. Use *and*, *but*, *so*, and *or*.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_