



**HARD HAT  
AREA**

# Building Effective Sentences

## Creating Sentence Variety



# Clauses

- Not Santa!
- Independent
  - Contains subject and verb
  - Complete thought
  - Example: Jim studied in the Sweet Shop for his Chemistry quiz.
- Dependent
  - Contains subject and verb
  - Incomplete thought (grandma moment)
  - When Jim studied in the Sweet Shop for his chemistry quiz. (... what happens next?)





# Sentence Types

- Simple Sentences
- Compound Sentences
- Complex Sentences
- Compound-Complex Sentences





# Simple Sentences

- Only one independent clause
  - Subject and verb
  - Complete thought (not a fragment)
- Example: Typhoons are similar to hurricanes.





# Compound Sentences

- Two or more independent clauses
  - Joined by conjunction, semicolon (;), transitional word
- Example: *Typhoons are similar to hurricanes, but they tend to be stronger and larger.*





# Complex Sentence

- One independent clause
- One or more dependent clauses
  - Dependent clause: has subject and verb, but is NOT a complete thought!
- Example: Typhoons are violent tropical storms *that occur in the Western Pacific (dependent clause)*.
- OR: *Occurring mostly in the Western Pacific (dependent clause)*, typhoons are violent tropical storms.





# Compound-Complex Sentence

- Two or more independent clauses
- One or more dependent clauses
- Example: *As typhoons gather intensity* (dependent), **they move slowly westward (independent)**, but **their circular winds are very strong (independent)**.





# Coordination

- Combining sentences using coordination (independent clauses)
- Pattern #1 for Compound Sentence
  - Independent clause (sentence) +(, FANBOYS)+Independent clause
  - FANBOYS=for, and, nor but, or yet, so
  - Ex: I wanted to see the birds, but my husband insisted we watch the fish instead.







# Coordination Cont.

- Pattern #2 for a Compound Sentence
  - Independent clause+(;)+Independent Clause
  - Example: Mary was tired after the game; her mother practically had to carry her to her bed.





# Coordination Cont.

- Pattern # 3 for a Compound Sentence
  - Independent Clause + (;) + transitional word + (,) + Independent Clause
  - Transition Words:

Accordingly	indeed	however
additionally	In fact	In addition
also	instead	otherwise
As a result	likewise	therefore
besides	meanwhile	thus
consequently	moreover	
For example	nevertheless	
For instance	nonetheless	
furthermore		

**Example:** She excelled at sports; however, her brother was much more inclined to play video games





# Subordination

- Combining sentences using subordination (dependent clauses)
- The following subordinating conjunctions begin dependent clauses:

**Note:** When you add these words in front of a sentence, they no longer make a complete thought; thus, they cannot stand alone and must be attached to a truly complete thought. This is why they are called “dependent clauses.” They cannot stand alone!

after	Even though	whenever	if
although	Rather than	where	Even if
as	since	wherever	In order that
As long as	unless	whether	
because	until	Whether or not	
before	when	while	





# Subordination Cont.

- Example:
  - John fell. (sentence)
  - After John fell. (not a sentence-->leaves the reader 'hanging')
  - *After John fell, we had to cancel the game.*  
(*dependent clause, independent clause*
    - now it's a complex sentence!





# Rules of Subordination

“If the fragment is the leader, the comma makes it sweeter!”

1. If the dependent clause comes before the independent clause, a comma must separate the two clauses

-Example: After John fell, we had to cancel the game.

2. If the dependent clause follows the independent clause, do not use comma to separate the two clauses.

-Example: We had to cancel the game after John fell.

