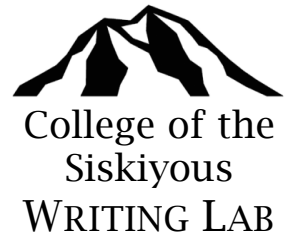


COMBINING CLAUSES



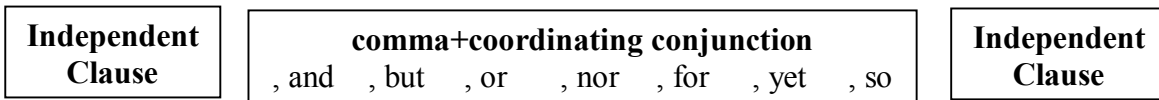
INTRODUCTION: The methods diagramed below are used to combine clauses in a way that places emphasis on the most important ideas.

Clauses are word groups that contain both a subject and a verb. There are two types:

- **Independent clauses** can stand alone as a complete sentence.
- **Dependent clauses** cannot stand alone (they are fragments).

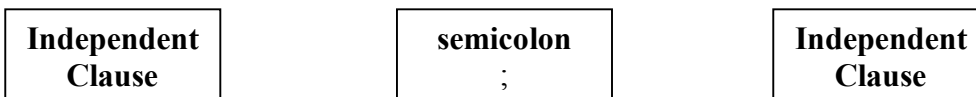
Coordination: Use coordination to combine independent clauses that are equal in importance. There are three methods to do this:

Use a comma with a coordinating conjunction.



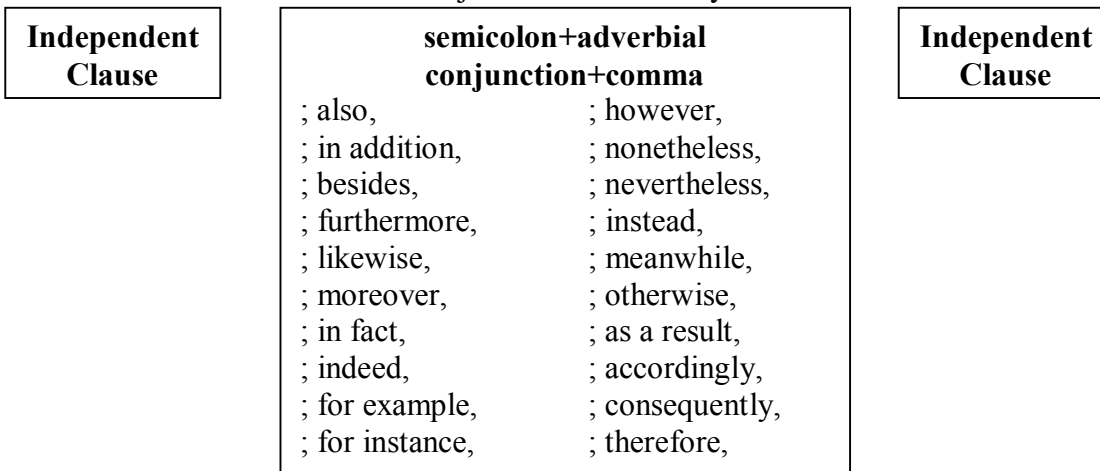
Example: We arrived early, **so** we found a good place to sit.

Use a semicolon.



Example: We arrived early; we found a good place to sit.

Use a semicolon with an adverbial conjunction followed by a comma.



Example: We arrived early; **consequently**, we found a good place to sit.

Subordination: Use subordination when one idea is less important than another. There are two methods to do this:

Place the independent clause at the front of the sentence with no punctuation between.

**Independent
Clause**

**no
punctuation**

Subordinating Conjunction+Dependent Clause		
after	although	as, as if, as though
as long as	until	because
before	even though	provided that
since	rather than	so that
though	when, whenever	whether
unless	where, wherever	while

Example: We found a good place to sit **since** we arrived early.

Place the subordinate clause with a comma at the front of the sentence.

Subordinating Conjunction+Dependent Clause		
after	although	as, as if, as though
as long as	until	because
before	even though	provided that
since	rather than	so that
though	when, whenever	whether
unless	where, wherever	while

**comma
,**

**Independent
Clause**

Example: **Since** we arrived early, we found a good place to sit.