

Name _____

Date _____

Ways to Combine Sentences

Short, choppy sentences can make your writing **feel jumpy**. Combining sentences with **compound subjects** makes your writing **smoother** and **easier to read**.

A **compound subject** has **two or more subjects** joined together (usually with *and* or *or*).

Example:

Choppy: *My sister likes singing. My brother likes singing.*

Smooth: *My sister and my brother like singing.*

Read the personal narrative below. Underline the sentences that could be combined using compound subjects. Rewrite the underlined sentences by combining the subjects.

In the Spotlight

Auditioning for our school musical, *Grease*, was one of the scariest things I have ever done. My sister has been in a play. My brother has been in a play, too. But I am the shy one in the family! Still, I love to sing. So when auditions were announced, I decided to go for it.

My friend Marcos auditioned for a part. My friend Amy also auditioned for a part. I thought the others were better than I was. Marcos and Amy thought the others were better than they were.

The next day, the results were posted. As we approached the board, I saw my name. Marcos saw his, too. We both got parts! Amy didn't get a part. I felt bad about that. Marcos did, too. But then we found out that Amy is going to be the assistant director. She'll be telling us what to do!

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

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Ways to Combine Sentences – Answer Key

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- 1 **My sister and my brother have been in a play.**
- 2 **My friends Marcos and Amy auditioned for a part.**
- 3 **Marcos and I felt bad about that.**