

Follow your teacher's instructions to improve this passage.

One day my uncle came to visit. I had not seen my uncle since I was five years old. I don't remember the last time I saw him. On this day he brought me a present. He brought my sister a present. I got a football. My sister got a soccer ball. I like to play football. I like to play soccer, too. We all went outside. We all played catch with the football. Then we took a break. We all drank some water. My sister wanted to play with her new soccer ball. She wanted to practice shooting goals against me. I am a good goalie. She can almost never score on me. She scored on me three times in a row! I usually am a good goalie. Today I wasn't. I decided the next day we would play again. I could make sure she didn't score on me two days in a row!

Select the best conjunction that makes sense and is the best revision for the sentences. First make your corrections in the paragraph, and then read the questions.

¹ I can't wait for Saturday afternoon. ² I am going to have an awesome birthday party! ³ I invited everyone in my class. ⁴ I think they all said they were coming. ⁵ I wanted to have a skating party. ⁶ Then I changed my mind to a swim party instead. ⁷ That is because the city opened a brand new pool just two weeks before my birthday. ⁸ I feel so lucky! ⁹ We are going to have so much fun!

1. What is the best way to combine sentences 1 and 2?
 - A. I can't wait for Saturday afternoon, but I am going to have an awesome birthday party!
 - B. I can't wait for Saturday afternoon, so I am going to have an awesome birthday party!
 - C. I can't wait for Saturday afternoon because I am going to have an awesome birthday party!
 - D. I can't wait for Saturday afternoon, nor am I going to have an awesome birthday party!
2. What is the best way to combine sentences 3 and 4?
 - A. I invited everyone in my class, and I think they all said they were coming.
 - B. I invited everyone in my class, but I think they all said they were coming.
 - C. I invited everyone in my class, or I think they all said they were coming.
 - D. I invited everyone in my class, for I think they all said they were coming.
3. What is the best way to combine sentences 5 and 6?
 - A. I wanted to have a skating party, or I changed my mind to a swim party instead.
 - B. I wanted to have a skating party, but I changed my mind to a swim party instead.
 - C. I wanted to have a skating party, and I changed my mind to a swim party instead.
 - D. I wanted to have a skating party, so I changed my mind to a swim party instead.

If you have your own writing sample, try to combine your short, choppy sentences by using conjunctions.

Select the best conjunction that makes sense and is the best revision for the sentences. First make your corrections in the paragraph, and then read the questions.

¹ I will never forget when my baby sister was born. ² That was probably the most exciting day of my entire life. ³ She wasn't supposed to be born for two more weeks. ⁴ She just decided to come a little early. ⁵ In fact, the day she was born also happens to be my dad's birthday. ⁶ He was out of town that day for work. ⁷ My mom and I always joke that my little sister was his birthday present that year. ⁸ When my dad finally got to see the baby, my mom had her dressed up like a little present. ⁹ She even put a gift bow on her head! ¹⁰ My mom said that she could have gotten him a gift from the store. ¹¹ It just wouldn't have been as good as a real baby!

4. What is the best way to combine sentences 3 and 4?
 - A. She wasn't supposed to be born for two more weeks, and she just decided to come a little early.
 - B. She wasn't supposed to be born for two more weeks, but she just decided to come a little early.
 - C. She wasn't supposed to be born for two more weeks, for she just decided to come a little early.
 - D. She wasn't supposed to be born for two more weeks, so she just decided to come a little early.
5. What is the best way to combine sentences 5 and 6?
 - A. In fact, the day she was born also happens to be my dad's birthday, so he was out of town that day for work.
 - B. In fact, the day she was born also happens to be my dad's birthday, for he was out of town that day for work.
 - C. In fact, the day she was born also happens to be my dad's birthday, and he was out of town that day for work.
 - D. In fact, the day she was born also happens to be my dad's birthday, because he was out of town that day for work.
6. What is the best way to combine sentences 9 and 10?
 - A. My mom said she could have gotten him a gift from the store, or it just wouldn't have been as good as a real baby!
 - B. My mom said she could have gotten him a gift from the store, so it just wouldn't have been as good as a real baby!
 - C. My mom said she could have gotten him a gift from the store, for it just wouldn't have been as good as a real baby!
 - D. My mom said she could have gotten him a gift from the store, but it just wouldn't have been as good as a real baby!

Sample Student Writing

One day my uncle came to visit. I had not seen my uncle since I was five years old. I don't remember the last time I saw him. On this day he brought me a present. He brought my sister a present. I got a football. My sister got a soccer ball. I like to play football. I like to play soccer, too. We all went outside. We all played catch with the football. Then we took a break. We all drank some water. My sister wanted to play with her new soccer ball. She wanted to practice shooting goals against me. I am a good goalie. She can almost never score on me. She scored on me three times in a row! I usually am a good goalie. Today I wasn't. I decided the next day we would play again. I could make sure she didn't score on me two days in a row!