WritingFix’s Coordinating Conjunction Rules

**Student Learning Goal:** There are three sentence patterns to learn with your coordinating conjunctions (cc). One pattern requires a comma; the other two do not. Can you learn when to use each pattern in your own writing?

**Sentence pattern #1:**

\[ \text{Subject #1} \ 	ext{cc} \ 	ext{subject #2 + predicate} \ . \]

- The excited children and their irritated teachers sat through the school’s annual yo-yo assembly.
- Our elderly State Senators or some of their aides will attend the yo-yo assembly to show their support of yo-yo standards.

**Sentence pattern #2:**

\[ \text{Subject + predicate #1} \ 	ext{cc} \ 	ext{predicate #2} \ . \]

- The yo-yo performers dazzled us with tricks but never said one thing remotely educational.
- We knew ahead of time the assembly wouldn’t be educational and attended anyway.

**Sentence pattern #3:**

\[ \text{Subject + predicate} \ , \ 	ext{cc} \ 	ext{subject + predicate} \ . \]

- The principal found herself in a parent conference during the assembly, so she missed out on the yo-yo sales pitch.
- Tomorrow we shall double the number of teachers on playground duty, for we know there will more yo-yos out there to confiscate.
- The teachers decided to petition the principal about canceling future yo-yo assemblies, and they were scolded at the next staff meeting.

These 3 patterns apply to these seven conjunctions only:

- and
- but
- or
- yet
- for
- nor
- so

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