COMBINING SENTENCES USING COMMAS-IN-A-SERIES

Combine each set of sentences below into one longer sentence. Remember to use commas where necessary.

SET ONE

1. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis spoke with the same inflections.
2. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis moved with the same gait.
3. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis made the same gestures.

SET TWO

1. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis married women named Linda.
2. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis loved stock car racing.
3. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis hated baseball.

SET THREE

1. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis both drove Chevrolets.
2. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis both drank Miller Lites.
3. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis both chain-smoked Salems.

SET FOUR

1. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis both had elevated blood pressure.
2. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis both suffered from severe migraines.
3. Jim Springer and Jim Lewis both bit their nails.

SET FIVE

1. Each cell has a complete set of DNA.
2. Each cell has 23 pairs of chromosomes.
3. Each cell has between 20,000-25,000 genes in its DNA.

SET SIX

1. People inherit traits such as shyness.
2. People inherit traits such as thrill-seeking.
3. People inherit traits such as obesity.

**COMBINING SENTENCES USING PARALLEL STRUCTURE**

Which one correctly uses parallel structure?

SET ONE

1. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer both drove Chevrolets and they liked to drink Miller Lites and smoked Salems.
2. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer both drove Chevrolets, drank Miller Lites, and smoked Salems.
3. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer both drove Chevrolets and they liked to drink Miller Lites and they also liked to smoke Salems.
4. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer liked Miller Lites and Salems, and they both liked to drive Chevrolets.

SET TWO

1. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer moved with the same gait, and they had similar inflections in their speech and they made similar gestures.
2. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer, having the same gait and similar gestures, also had the same inflections in their speech.
3. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer both moved with the same gait, spoke with the same inflections, and made the same gestures.
4. Jim Lewis and Jim Springer, speaking with the same inflections and moving with the same gait, also had similar gestures.

SET THREE

1. Each cell has a complete set of DNA as well as 23 chromosomes and also 20,000-25,000 genes.
2. Each cell has a complete set of DNA; also, all cells have 20,000-25.000 genes and 23 chromosomes.
3. Each cell has a complete set of DNA which is made up on 20,000-25,000 genes located on 23 chromosomes.
4. Each cell as a complete set of DNA, 20,000-25,000 genes, and 23 chromosomes.

GENETICS and HEREDITY: Scientific Terms

*A “family” of words is related in terms of meaning, and the root tells you what that meaning might be. But different suffixes (endings) tell you what the form of the word is (noun? Adjective? Adverb?) and thus how to use it in a sentence.*

The “GENE” family of words:

GENE

Genetic

Generation

Genetically

Genome

Geneticist

She inherited a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for obesity.

It’s a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-inherited trait.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had studied this particular trait for a very long time.

The human \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has finally been mapped.

The “INHERIT” family of words:

Inherit

Inherited

Heritable

Heritability

Inheritance

(…and don’t forget: Heritage)

Irritability is not an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ trait.

She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that trait from her father.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a trait like depression is not known.

Introversion is an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ trait.

**Practice with Coordinate Adjectives and Commas**

Coordinate Adjectives can be re-arranged. We can say

James is wearing a black, fuzzy coat.

James is wearing a fuzzy, black coat.

Both are correct.

When we use coordinate adjectives in front of a noun (adjectives that can be re-arranged in order and the sentence still makes sense) we need to **use a comma** between them.

For instance:

She was a child.

She was intelligent.

She was assertive.

Can be combined as:

She was an intelligent, assertive child.

OR

She was an assertive, intelligent child.

Try these:

SET ONE

He was a stunt man.

He was assertive.

He was adventurous.

SET TWO:

She was a scientist.

She was introverted.

She was risk-averse.

**Practice with Coordinate Adjectives and Commas, continued**

Unfortunately, it’s not always that easy to figure out whether two adjectives are coordinate adjectives. Some adjectives are not interchangeable in terms of order. For instance, there are three adjectives in the sentence below that describe “squirrels”:

The three large gray squirrels

Three—how many there are

Large—their size

Gray-their color.

Adjectives like these have to follow a certain order. Can we say:

The gray large three squirrels?

The large gray three squirrels?

The large three gray squirrels?

When the adjectives have to follow a certain order, there are **no commas** between them:

The three large gray squirrels ran up the tree. CORRECT.

The three, large, gray squirrels ran up the tree. INCORRECT.

Let’s try it using words that describe traits:

Jim Springer and Jim Lewis were two introverted, risk-averse twins. CORRECT.

How do we know?

We can ALSO say:

Jim Springer and Jim Lewis were two risk-averse, introverted twins.

So, let’s practice writing sentences using trait words and commas where needed:

Which is correct?

1. Twin studies are the best most useful scientific studies for understanding inheritance of traits.
2. Twin studies are the best, more useful scientific studies for understanding inheritance of traits.

**Practice with Coordinate Adjectives and Commas, continued**

MORE PRACTICE:

1. Read a description of the person.
2. Decide which traits are involved.
3. Write a sentence with both traits.
4. Use commas correctly.

TRAIT WORDS:

Assertive…………..introverted……………..extroverted………………anxious………….intelligent………

…irritable…..aggressive…….passive……..abusive……..vulnerable……..confident……

FOR EXAMPLE:

Lamar was the kind of person who would go right up to someone and ask for what he wanted. He wasn’t impolite but he was also not afraid to make requests. Another trait that Lamar had was that he was really smart and could figure out math problems very quickly.

A sentence that could be written about Lamar:

Lamar was an intelligent, assertive person.

Now you try:

Boykin was the kind of guy who was the life of the party. He knew everybody’s name and could find something to talk about with just about anyone. But he could also get very annoyed with people sometimes.

Another example:

Suzette worried a lot. She also had a tendency to hang back and not take action.

Now you do: Write a few sentences to describe some people you know. Use the trait words. Use at least two trait words per person and also use commas correctly between the trait words.

COMBINE THE SENTENCES BELOW USING “AND,” “BUT,” or “SO.”

SET ONE

1. Cells perform all the functions of living things.
2. A living thing can be only one cell.

SET TWO

1. Mitochondria are organelles that provide energy for a cell.
2. They are very important.

SET THREE

1. Cells are made up of many smaller parts called organelles.
2. The organelles perform certain functions.
3. The cell can carry out all its activities.

SET- FOUR

1. Many-celled organisms are more complex than single-celled organisms.
2. There may be many types of specialized cells to perform more complex activities.

SET FIVE

1. Cells were discovered once the microscope was invented.
2. Our understanding of cells led to many scientific advances.

SET SIX

1. Cell theory states that all living things are made of cells.
2. Cells only come from other cells.

SET SEVEN

1. Most organisms are made of many cells.
2. An organism can be only one cell.

SET EIGHT

1. Proteins are a certain type of chemical.
2. Cells use proteins for many functions.

SET NINE

1. DNA is in the nucleus of a cell.
2. It tells the cell how to reproduce.

COMBINE THE SENTENCES BELOW USING DEPENDENT CLAUSE WORDS LIKE

* BECAUSE
* ALTHOUGH
* SINCE
* WHEN
* IF
* AFTER
* BEFORE

SET ONE

1. Mendel is known as the father of modern genetics.
2. His experiments led to a better understanding of genetic inheritance.

SET TWO

1. A person can inherit a gene for a trait
2. The trait will not always appear in the offspring.
3. The gene is recessive.

SET THREE

1. Mendel experimented with pea plants.
2. He crossed two tall plants
3. The first generation of offspring were all tall.
4. The second generation were not all tall.
5. Mendel wondered why.

SET FOUR

1. Mendel experimented with pea plants.
2. He crossed plants with the same traits, such as two tall plants.
3. Many years went by.
4. He noticed a pattern.
5. About 75% of offspring showed the dominant trait.
6. Twenty-five percent did not.

SET FIVE

1. Sexual reproduction mixes the genes of two different organisms.
2. There can be variation of traits in their offspring.

SET SIX

1. Asexual reproduction results in offspring identical to parents.
2. It is easier than sexual reproduction.
3. It does not require a partner.
4. It does not allow for genetic variation.