

Punctuation Patterns

Proper punctuation signals meaning and relationships of words and sentences. Listed in the table below are some common patterns to become familiar with.

Simple Sentence	Independent clause .
Compound Sentence With a Coordinating Conjunction	Independent clause , { for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so } independent clause .
Coordination With a Semicolon	Independent clause ; independent clause .
Coordination With Semicolon and Sentence Connector	Independent clause ; { therefore, consequently, however, furthermore, nevertheless, moreover } , independent clause .
Complex Sentence With Subordinating Conjunction	{ After, Although, As (as if), Because, Before, If, Since, Unless, Until, Whereas, When, While } independent clause , independent clause .
	Independent clause { after, although, as (as if), because, before, if, since, unless, until, whereas, when, while } independent clause .
Sentence With a Parenthetical Clause	Clause , nonessential/extra information , clause .
List or Explanation	Independent clause : A, B, and C .
Dialogue	" Dialogue , " she said. He said , " Dialogue . "