

Name: _____ Section: _____ Date: _____

English Handout: Correcting Faulty Coordination

Correcting Faulty Coordination

- Revise sentences with faulty coordination by putting unrelated ideas in separate sentences.
- You can also put less important or subordinate ideas into a subordinate clause or a phrase.

First Method: If the independent clauses joined by ***and*** are not closely related, separate them and drop the coordinating conjunction.

Faulty Coordination: I saw *The Wizard of Oz* on television, and the movie was filmed in 1939.

Corrected Sentence: I saw *The Wizard of Oz* on television. The movie was filmed in 1939.

Faulty Coordination: Steam was pouring forth from my car, and the gas station attendant said I should have had it checked months ago.

Corrected Sentence: Steam was pouring forth from my car. The gas station attendant said I should have had it checked months ago.

Second Method: Change the independent clause that is less important into a subordinate clause.

Faulty Coordination: We were best friends as children, and I have not seen her since we graduated.

Corrected Sentence: Although we were best friends as children, I have not seen her since we graduated.

Faulty Coordination: I didn't do well, and the race was very easy.

Corrected Sentence: I didn't do well even though the race was very easy.

Third Method: Involves reducing an unimportant idea to a phrase – that is, changing the compound sentence into a simple sentence.

A clause that can be reduced to a phrase will often begin with a pronoun and a linking verb, such as *he is* or *it was*.

Faulty Coordination: The best film was shown last, and it was a documentary about China.

Corrected Sentence: The best film, a documentary about China, was shown last.

Note: Stringy sentences should be broken up and revised using any of the three methods given above.

Correcting Faulty Coordination Exercise: Correct the faulty coordination of each sentence using one of the three methods given.

Example: I made the dessert, and it was an apple pie.

Answer: I made dessert, an apple pie.

1. Clark Gable was one of America's most popular actors, and he starred in *Gone with the Wind*.

2. I jogged to the park, and crowds filled the lawns.

3. The lava flows stretch many miles in Hawaii, and they cut a swath through the otherwise dense vegetation.

4. Someone built a miniature replica of the White House, and it has lights and a television that actually work.

5. The suitcases were packed, and we set off on vacation.

6. The alarm woke me up this morning, and it was still dark.

7. Jill was looking for a job, and she had been fired last week.

8. The clerk rang up my purchase, but she did it incorrectly, and I asked her to re-total it, and she did, but she made another mistake, and the manager finally fixed it.

9. *Star Wars* was Tom's favorite movie, and he saw it eighteen times.

10. The plane took of fifteen minutes behind schedule, and it arrived at its next stop on time.