

Compound Fix-Up Answer Key

1. **Error:** Comma splice.
✓ I wanted to go to the park,
but I had too much homework.
2. **Error:** Incorrect connector ("also" is not a conjunction).
✓ She likes pizza, **and** she likes pasta.
3. **Error:** Illogical conjunction ("or" doesn't fit).
✓ The dog barked loudly, **and** the cat ran under the bed.
4. **Error:** Second clause incomplete.
✓ We studied for hours, **but** we were still tired.
5. **Error:** Missing comma before conjunction.
✓ He enjoys reading books,
and he enjoys writing stories too.
6. **Error:** Misplaced comma.
✓ The sun was shining, **and** the birds were singing.
7. **Error:** Comma splice.
✓ I washed the dishes, **and** my brother dried them.
8. **Error:** Misplaced comma.
✓ You may join us for dinner,
but you must call ahead.
9. **Error:** Run-on sentence.
✓ She tried to open the jar, **but** it wouldn't budge.
10. **Error:** Second clause missing subject.
✓ They climbed the mountain,
and they reached the peak before sunset.

Teacher Guide

- Common errors include:
 1. **Comma splices** - using a comma alone instead of comma + conjunction.
 2. **Missing or incorrect conjunctions** - using words like "also" instead of FANBOYS.
 3. **Incomplete clauses** - forgetting that each side of a compound must be a full sentence.
 4. **Misplaced commas** - putting a comma in the wrong spot.
- Strategy: Have students **circle the conjunction** and then **check that both sides could stand alone** as complete sentences.