Sentence combining is when you create involved, sophisticated sentences by combining several short, choppy sentences. You do this in order to 1) make your paper more reader-friendly 2) express connected ideas. By using concise and organized sentences, your essay will be easier to read because the connection between ideas is stronger if these ideas are related to one another within the same sentence. However, you can go overboard. Try to avoid creating sentences that are so involved that they create confusion instead of clarity. Sentences can get too involved when you 1) try to express too many ideas in one sentence 2) just coordinate (adding more information repeatedly using only coordinating conjunctions). In fact, sometimes simple sentences actually convey what you are trying to say most effectively. However, there should be a motivation behind using a very simple sentence.

There are four basic methods we use for sentence combining:

1) COORDINATION—adding information that is of equal value onto a sentence. This is dangerous if you do it too much within one sentence. Your coordinating conjunctions are known as FANBOYS and friends.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For</th>
<th>And</th>
<th>Nor</th>
<th>Both:and</th>
<th>not only:but also</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>But</td>
<td>Or</td>
<td>Yet</td>
<td>either:or</td>
<td>neither:nor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex. Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player of all times.

Michael Jordan is a bad baseball player.

Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player of all times, but he is a bad baseball player.

2) SUBORDINATION—adding information to the sentence by using a subordinating conjunction. This additional information is not the emphasis of the sentence and is part of a dependant clause.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>After</th>
<th>In order that</th>
<th>Unless</th>
<th>Although</th>
<th>Now that</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Until</td>
<td>As if</td>
<td>As</td>
<td>Once</td>
<td>Rather than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When</td>
<td>Whenever</td>
<td>Because</td>
<td>Before</td>
<td>As though</td>
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<tr>
<td>If</td>
<td>Since</td>
<td>So that</td>
<td>That</td>
<td>Even though</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Though</td>
<td>Where</td>
<td>Whereas</td>
<td>Wherever</td>
<td>While</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex. Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player of all times.

Although Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player of all times, he is a really bad baseball player.
3) EMBEDDING-taking additional information and thrusting it into the sentence. This can be done by a number of different techniques.

   Prepositional phrases-using prepositions to include information
   Ex. The heart surgeon at GBMC was just given the humanitarian of the year award.

   Relative Clauses-using who, which, and that to incorporate information.
   Ex. The heart surgeon that was humanitarian of the year works at GBMC.

   Appositives-like a relative clause without who, which, or that.
   Ex. Dr. Maria Lopez, a 34 year old doctor from Arizona, was named humanitarian of the year last night.

   Participial Phrase-a verb functioning as an adjective by modifying a noun.
   Ex. Awakened by the phone, Maria could not go back to sleep all night.

   Gerund-A participial phrase used as the noun of the sentence.
   Ex. Being named humanitarian of the year was Maria’s proudest accomplishment.

   Absolute phrase-A noun followed by a participial phrase that modifies the entire sentence instead of just one word.
   Ex. Her anxiety relieved, Maria smiled as she finished her acceptance speech.

4) DELETION-getting rid of useless repetition