

## Ways to Combine Sentences

***Below is a poorly-written paragraph. What is wrong with it?***

*Plan ahead when visiting Big Bear Lake, California. You don't want to sleep at a rest stop. You don't want to use railroad ties for firewood. Big Bear Lake is near San Diego. It is near Los Angeles. It is near Las Vegas. There are many campsites. There are lodges. There are RV parks. They fill up fast. There are many hiking trails. Bring sturdy shoes. Sandals are not optimal for hiking. Many pro athletes live there. Wear good shoes if you want to follow them around. Sandals don't work for following people. There's a lake at Big Bear Lake, California. Big Bear Lake is at 7,000 feet above sea level. The water is cold. Swimming is discouraged. Boating is encouraged. Fishing is encouraged. Kayaking is encouraged.*

***Using the following sentence-combining techniques can improve it.***

- **Take two sentences and make a compound sentence**

Example: Water at Big Bear Lake is cold, **and** swimming is discouraged.

- **Insert modifiers, adjectives or adverbs, to combine sentences**

Example: Swimming in the **cold** water is discouraged

- **Use a prepositional phrase to combine sentences**

Example: **Near Los Angeles, San Diego, and Las Vegas**, Big Bear, California is easily accessible.

- **List items in a series to combine sentences**

Example: Park rangers encourage **boating, fishing, and kayaking**

- **Use a subordinating conjunction to combine sentences:**

Example: **Unless** you want to sleep at a rest stop using railroad ties as firewood, plan ahead.

- **Use a dependent clause beginning with a relative pronoun (which, that, whom, whose, or who):**

Example: Big Bear Lake, **which** sits 7,000 feet above sea level, is home to great fishing, kayaking, and boating.

- **Use participial phrases to combine sentences:**

Example: **Planning ahead** eliminates the need to sleep at rest stops and the need to use railroad ties as firewood.

**Rewrite the paragraph at the top, using the techniques above.**