

3 Basic Comma Rules—you'll never want to forget

(They cover about 90% of all sentences)

She slept. (Independent Clause) He wrote a paper. (Independent Clause)

Combine independent clauses using a coordination conjunction: for, and, not, but, or, yet, so (*aka FANBOYS*)

Rule #1:FANBOYS

Before a coordinating conjunction—use a comma!

IC , fanboys IC

It was hot. I went swimming.

Combine these into one sentence to show a cause/effect relationship.

Because it was hot, I went swimming.

The first clause is called a subordinating clause because it's dependent on (subordinate to) the main clause.

The top five subordinating conjunctions are *when, if, since, because, although* (*aka WISBA*)

Rule #2:WISBA

DC, IC (need comma) **Because it was hot, I went swimming.**

IC DC (no comma) **I went swimming because it was hot.**

Rule #3:SERIES COMMA

...a, b, and c...

Jasmin, Connor, and Jordan went swimming.

Jordan went swimming, skiing, and snorkeling.