Writing Compound Sentences

Compound sentences are formed by connecting two complete sentences (independent clauses) with a comma and a coordinating conjunction. The sentences may also be combined with a semi-colon.

Examples:

Independent clauses: Maria made the birthday cake.
Eli bought the candles.

Compound sentence 1: Maria made the birthday cake, and Eli bought the candles.

Compound sentence 2: Maria made the birthday cake; Eli bought the candles.

Combine each pair of independent clauses into a compound sentence. Use the coordinating conjunction in parentheses in the first four pairs. Use a semi-colon in the last three pairs.

1. The rain pounded against the windows.
    The wind wailed through the trees. (and)

    _____

    _____

2.

~PREVIEW~

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3. Would you like to play chess to pass the time?
    Would you rather play Monopoly? (or)

    _____

    _____

4. I knew it would rain all afternoon.
     I decided to bake cookies. (so)

_____

_____

5. In some places, it rains too much in the summer.
     In others, it doesn't rain enough. (;)

_____

_____

6. The children splashed in the muddy puddles.
     They didn't care if their clothes got messy. (;)

_____

7.

Now write two compound sentences of your own. In the first, include a comma and a coordinating conjunction. In the second, include a semicolon.
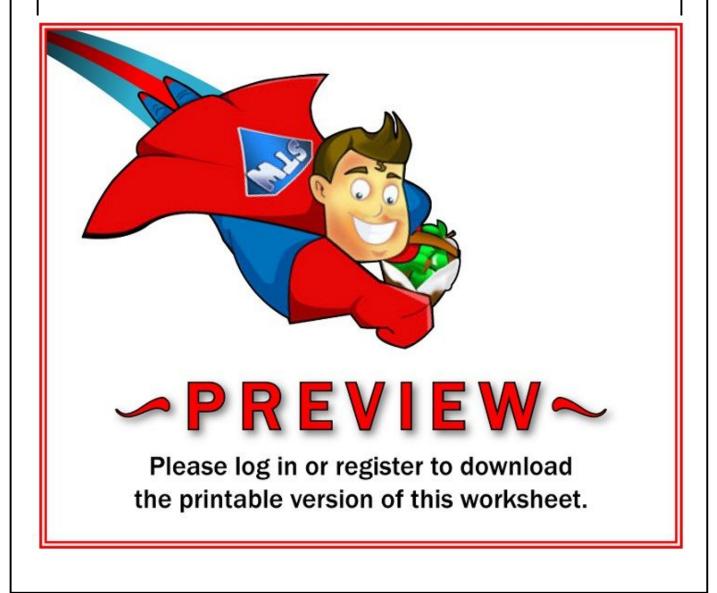

8. _____

     _____

9. _____

     _____

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ANSWER KEY

4. I knew it would rain all afternoon.
I decided to bake cookies. (so)

I knew it would rain all afternoon, so I decided to bake cookies.

5. In some places, it rains too much in the summer.
In others, it doesn't rain enough. (;)

In some places, it rains too much in the summer; in others, it doesn't rain enough.