

Read and
Discover

- a. The sea horse has a horselike head **and** a curly tail.
b. The sea horse resembles a horse, **but** it is a true fish.

Cross out the boldfaced conjunction in each sentence.
Which sentence could be punctuated as two separate sentences? _____

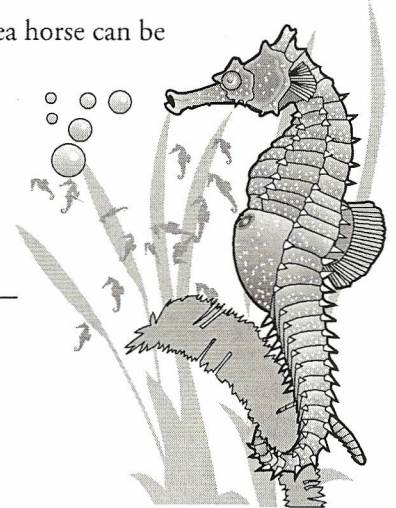
A **simple sentence** is made up of a subject and a predicate and expresses only one complete thought. It is an *independent clause*. A **compound sentence** is made of two closely related independent clauses. The two clauses can be joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (*and*, *but*, or *or*) or by a semicolon (;).

See Handbook Sections 8, 13, 22

Part 1

Write *S* next to each simple sentence. Write *CD* next to each compound sentence. Circle the comma and conjunction or the semicolon in each compound sentence.

- Most sea horses are less than six inches long, but the Eastern Pacific sea horse can be fourteen inches long. _____
- Sea horses are covered with knobby, bony armor; few predators will eat them. _____
- Sea horses are not strong swimmers. _____
- They live in warm, shallow water in the shelter of sea grass beds. _____
- Like a monkey's tail, a sea horse's tail can grasp things; scientists call this kind of tail prehensile. _____
- Sea horses must grasp stems of sea grass with their tails, or currents might sweep them away. _____
- A sea horse sucks plankton through its tube-shaped mouth. _____
- A sea horse's eyes swivel independently; it can spot prey in any direction. _____
- Sea horses change color in response to their surroundings. _____
- The sea horse looks strange, but its appearance is not its most unusual feature. _____
- Virtually unique in the animal kingdom, the male sea horse can become pregnant. _____
- At the full moon, the female sea horse lays eggs in the male sea horse's brood pouch. _____
- The brood pouch is like a kangaroo's pouch, and the male sea horse nurtures the eggs inside it. _____
- Sea horses are monogamous; they remain with the same mate throughout the breeding season. _____
- After about two weeks, tiny sea horses emerge from the pouch. _____



Some sea horses can have as many as 300 babies at a time!