**PUNCTUATING COMPOUND & COMPLEX SENTENCES**

**COMPOUND:**
Use a comma before a *coordinating conjunction* that connects two independent clauses.

, for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

Use a *semicolon* to connect two closely related or parallel independent clauses.

; consequently, ; further, ; however, ; indeed, ; therefore, ; nevertheless, ; then

**COMPLEX:**
The placement of a subordinate clause determines the punctuation of the clause. Use a comma following an introductory subordinate clause to separate it from the independent clause.

After
Although
Because
If
Until
Whereas
While

When the subordinate clause follows the independent clause, no comma is needed unless the clause expresses contrast or exception (*although, while, whereas*).