

Sentence Punctuation Patterns – from Purdue OWL

Pattern 1: simple sentence

Example: Doctors are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma.

Pattern 2: compound sentence - *FANBOYS*

Example: Doctors are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma, but they don't know the reasons for it.

Pattern 3: compound sentence - *Semicolon*

Example: Doctors are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma; they are unsure of its cause.

Pattern 4: compound sentence – *independent markers: therefore, moreover, thus, consequently, however, also*

Example: Doctors are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma; therefore, they have called for more research in to its causes.

Pattern 5: complex sentence – *dependent marker: because, before, since, while, although, if, until, when, after, as, as if.*

Example: Because doctors are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma, they have called for more research into its causes.

Example: Doctors are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma because it is a common, treatable illness.

Pattern 7: non-essential clause/phrase – *you can take it out*

Example: Many doctors, including both pediatricians and family practice physicians, are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma.

Pattern 8: essential clause/phrase - *you cannot take it out*

Example: Many doctors who are concerned about the rising death rate from asthma have called for more research into its causes.