Punctuation Patterns

1. Independent clause.

2. Independent clause; independent clause.

[conjunctive adverb]

3. Independent clause; therefore, independent clause.

however, nevertheless, consequently, conversely, in fact, indeed, moreover, meanwhile,

[coordinating conjunction]

4. Independent clause, and independent clause.

but, for, or, nor, so, yet

[unessential]

5. Clause, phrase, or word, clause, phrase, or word, clause, phrase, or word.

[subordinating conjunction]

6. If dependent clause, independent clause.

Because, Since, When, While Although, After, etc.

[subordinating conjunction]

7. Independent clause because dependent clause.

if, since, when, while although, after, etc.

[series]

8. Independent clause: A, B, and C.

Adapted from Muriel Harris’ Teaching One-to-One: The Writing Conference (1986)