



Sentence Types:

Simple, Compound, Complex, and Compound-Complex

Simple Sentences

- A simple sentence contains a subject and a verb.
- It expresses a single complete thought that can stand on its own.

Examples:

1. The baby cried for food.
^There is a subject and a verb that expresses a complete thought.
2. Professor Maple's intelligent students completed and turned in their homework.
^ A simple sentence does not necessarily have to be short. It can have adjectives. In this case, there are two verbs "completed" and "turned in." However, the sentence expresses one complete thought and therefore is a simple sentence.
3. Megan and Ron ate too much and felt sick.
^Although there are two subjects and two verbs, it is still a simple sentence because both verbs share the same subjects and express one complete thought.

Compound Sentences

- A compound sentence has two independent clauses. An independent clause is a part of a sentence that can stand alone because it contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought.
- Basically, a compound contains two simple sentences.
- These independent clauses are joined by a conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).

Examples:

1. The shoplifter had stolen clothes, **so** he ran once he saw the police.
^Both sides of the conjunction "so" are complete sentences. "The shoplifter had stolen clothes" can stand alone and so can "he ran once he saw the police." Therefore, this is a compound sentence.
2. They spoke to him in Spanish, **but** he responded in English.
^This is also a compound sentence that uses a conjunction to separate two individual clauses.

Complex Sentences

- A complex sentence is an independent clause joined by one or more dependent clauses. A dependent clause either lacks a subject or a verb or has both a subject and a verb that does not express a complete thought.
- A complex sentence always has a subordinator (as, because, since, after, although, when) or relative pronouns (who, that, which).

Examples:

1. **After** eating lunch at The Cheesecake Factory, Tim went to the gym to exercise.
^ The independent clause is 'Tim went to the gym to exercise.' The subordinating clause before it is dependent on the main, independent clause. If one were to say "after eating lunch at The Cheesecake Factory," it would be an incomplete thought.
2. Opinionated women are given disadvantages in societies **that** privilege male accomplishments.

