

Sentence Types:

SIMPLE SENTENCES

COMPOUND SENTENCES

COMPLEX SENTENCES

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.
2. Professor Maple's intelligent students turned in their homework.
3. Megan ate too much and felt sick.

Compound Sentences

- Basically, a compound contains two simple sentences.
- These independent clauses are joined by a conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).

Examples:

A

B

1. The shoplifter had stolen clothes, so he ran once he saw the police.

A is a sentence and B is a sentence

A

B

2. They spoke to him in Spanish, but he responded in English.

A is a sentence and B is a sentence

Complex Sentences

A complex sentence is an independent clause joined to a dependent clause.

A dependent clause introduces a thought, but does not complete it.

The independent clause **COMPLETES** the thought introduced by the dependent clause.

A complex sentence always has a subordinator (**as, because, since, after, although, when**) or relative a pronoun (**who, that, which**).

Example:

After eating lunch at The Cheesecake Factory, Tim went to the gym to exercise.

Explanation:

The independent clause is *Tim went to the gym to exercise.*

The dependent clause is *After eating lunch at the Cheesecake Factory.*

The dependent clause is dependent on the independent clause.

If one were to say “*After eating lunch at The Cheesecake Factory,*” it would *be* an incomplete thought. The second clause – *Tim went to the gym to exercise* – completes that thought.

Examples: (The dependent clause is *italicized*. The independent clause is in normal type)

- *Because my coffee was too cold,* I heated it in the microwave.
- *Although Tom was very rich,* he was still very unhappy.
- Sonia returned the computer *after she noticed it was damaged.*
- *When the cost goes up,* customers buy less clothing.
- *Since she was bright and ambitious,* she became manager in no time.
- *Wherever you go,* you can always find beauty.
- *After the tornado hit the town,* there was little left standing.
- I have to save this coupon *because I don't have time to shop right now.*

Definition:

A complex sentence is a sentence containing **BOTH** an independent clause and a dependent clause.