

Types of sentences

Remember:

Sentences are made up of clauses. There are two types:

Independent: Can stand on their own and be a complete thought. And **Dependent**: Cannot stand on their own as a complete sentence.

There are 4 main types of sentences:

Simple- 1 **independent** clause

Complex- 1 **independent** clause and at least 1 **dependent** clause

Compound- 2 or more **independent** clauses (Coordinating conjunctions: and, nor, for, but, or, yet, so)

Compound-Complex- 2 **independent** clauses, 1 **dependent** clause (The **dependent** clause can be part of **independent** clause)

Simple:

-These have one **independent** clause which means 1 subject, 1 verb; and either can be compound.

Example—

-Americans eat fruit. (1 sub, 1 verb)

-David Letterman and Jay Leno host talk shows. (Compound sub, 1 verb)

-My son toasts and butters his bagel. (1 sub, compound verb)

Complex:

-These contain 1 **independent** (main) clause and at least 1 **dependent** (subordinate) clause and use subordinate conjunctions to link them together. Hint: The subordinate conjunction is considered part of the dependent clause.

Example—

-Parallel lines never meet (IC) *until* (Sub conjunction) *you bend one of them* (DC).

-Many dead animals of the past changed to oil (IC) *while* (Sub conj.) *others preferred to be gas* (DC).

-Even though (Sub conj.) *the sun is a star* (DC), *it knows how to change back to the sun in the daytime* (IC).

Compound:

-These have 2 or more **independent** clauses and can be joined with a coordinating conjunction or with a semicolon.

Example—

- Men are mammals and women are femammals.*
- Mushrooms grow in the damp places so they look like umbrellas.*
- The largest mammals are found in the sea; there's nowhere else to put them.*

Compound-Complex:

-These have at least 2 **independent** clauses and at least 1 **dependent** clause. Hint: the **dependent** clause can be part of the **independent** clause.

Example—

-*When the heat comes* (dependent clause), *the lakes dry up* (independent clause), *and farmers know the crops will fail* (independent clause).

-*I planned to drive to work* (independent clause), *but I couldn't* (independent clause) *until the mechanic repaired my car* (dependent clause).

-Label the sentences as *simple, compound, complex, or compound-complex*.

1. If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
2. The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
3. You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive.
4. It takes about half a gallon of water to cook spaghetti, and about a gallon of water to clean the pot.
5. Monday is an awful way to spend one-seventh of your life.
6. Genetics explains why you look like your father and if you don't, why you should.
7. To succeed in politics, it is often necessary to rise above your principles.
8. Two wrongs are only the beginning.
9. When oxygen is combined with anything, heat is given off, a process known as "constipation."
10. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.