

Compound Sentences

Compound Sentences

7b.

A **compound sentence** contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

The independent clauses of a compound sentence are usually joined together by a comma and a connecting word (*and, but, or, nor, for, so, or yet*). The independent clauses of a compound sentence may be connected by a semicolon (;). When a semicolon joins together two independent clauses, no connecting word is needed.

EXAMPLES $\begin{matrix} S & V \\ \text{Egypt} & \text{is a country in Africa} \end{matrix}$, and $\begin{matrix} S & V \\ \text{Argentina} & \text{is a country in South America} \end{matrix}$.

[This compound sentence contains two independent clauses. The two clauses are joined by a comma and the connecting word *and*.]

S V S V
Koko is a famous lowland gorilla; she communicates in American Sign Language. [In this compound sentence, a semicolon joins together the two independent clauses.]

EXERCISE C Each sentence below has two independent clauses that are joined together. Draw one line under both independent clauses in each sentence below. Then, circle the item or items that join the two clauses together.

Example 1. Mandy and Anna opened their lockers; they pulled out several books. [The word group *Mandy and Anna opened their lockers* is an independent clause because it has a subject and verb and expresses a complete thought. The word group *they pulled out several books* is an independent clause because it has a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. A semicolon joins the two clauses together.]

- 11.** Dennis cleaned the kitchen, and John folded the laundry. [Which two word groups have a subject and a verb and express a complete thought? What punctuation mark and connecting word join the two clauses together?]
- 12.** The skaters wore safety helmets; they also wore kneepads and elbow pads.
- 13.** A flock of geese was flying south, for winter was approaching.
- 14.** Seven runners will compete, but only one can take home the trophy.
- 15.** You can trim the bushes near the house, or you can rake the leaves.

Complex Sentences

Study the definitions and examples of sentences below.

Definition

Example

Simple Sentence =
one independent clause

Birds are warm-blooded animals.

Compound Sentence =
two (or more) independent clauses

A bird has wings, and its body is covered with feathers.

Complex Sentence =
one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause

While bats have warm blood and wings, they are not birds.

1. Which type of sentence has one independent clause? _____
2. Which type of sentence has two independent clauses? _____
3. Which type of sentence contains a subordinate clause? _____



A **complex sentence** has two types of clauses. It has an independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.

A. Write simple or complex to describe each sentence. The first one is done for you.

1. Bats are mammals with furry bodies and with wings. simple
2. Although birds fly during the day, bats fly at night. _____
3. The bodies of bats are not covered with feathers. _____
4. Their days in dark caves seem dull to us. _____
5. At dusk and in the evening, bats leave their caves. _____
6. Because their eyes are weak, bats make their way by sound. _____

B. Write simple, compound, or complex in the blank to identify each sentence. The first one is done for you.

7. Whenever you travel at night, you can look for bats. complex
8. If you study, you can learn a great deal about bats. _____
9. Bats eat insects, and crops are protected from damage. _____
10. Although many people do not care for bats, farmers like them. _____
11. At times movies and television shows portray bats as creatures of darkness and mystery. _____