

# Lecture: Types of Sentences in English Grammar

## Introduction

Understanding sentence types is essential for clear and effective communication. In English, sentences can be classified in two ways:

### 1. Based on Purpose (Function)

- Declarative
- Interrogative
- Imperative
- Exclamatory

### 2. Based on Structure

- Simple
- Compound
- Complex
- Compound–Complex

This lecture covers both categories in depth.

## PART I: Types of Sentences Based on Purpose

### 1. Declarative Sentences

#### Definition

A declarative sentence **states a fact, opinion, or information**. It is the most common sentence type.

#### Features

- Ends with a **full stop** (.)
- Subject comes before verb
- Used in statements, descriptions, explanations

#### Examples

- *The weather is pleasant today.*
- *Pakistan won the match.*
- *Data centers consume a significant amount of electricity.*

### 2. Interrogative Sentences

#### Definition

Interrogative sentences **ask questions**.

#### Features

- End with a **question mark (?)**
- Often begin with:
  - **Wh-words** (what, when, why, who, where, how)
  - **Helping verbs** (is, am, are, do, does, did, will, can)

## Types of Questions

1. **Wh-Questions**
  - *Where are you going?*
2. **Yes/No Questions**
  - *Did you complete your homework?*
3. **Choice Questions**
  - *Do you prefer tea or coffee?*
4. **Tag Questions**
  - *You are coming with us, aren't you?*

## 3. Imperative Sentences

### Definition

An imperative sentence expresses:

- A **command**
- A **request**
- An **instruction**
- **Advice**
- **Prohibition**

### Features

- Usually start with the **base form of the verb (V1)**
- The subject “**you**” is understood but not written
- Ends with a full stop (.)  
Sometimes can end with an exclamation (!) depending on tone

### Examples

#### Commands

- *Close the door.*
- *Stop talking!*

#### Requests

- *Please help me with this work.*
- *Kindly pass the salt.*

#### Advice

- *Take regular breaks while working.*
- *Always save your files.*

#### Instructions

- *Mix all the ingredients in a bowl.*
- *Turn left at the signal.*

#### **Prohibition**

- *Do not touch the wires.*
- *Never speak rudely to anyone.*

## **4. Exclamatory Sentences**

#### **Definition**

Exclamatory sentences express **strong emotions** such as surprise, joy, anger, shock, or excitement.

#### **Features**

- End with an **exclamation mark (!)**
- Often begin with **what** or **how**, but not always

#### **Examples**

- *What a beautiful house this is!*
- *How fast he runs!*
- *Wow! This is amazing!*
- *Oh no! I forgot my wallet.*

# **PART II: Types of Sentences Based on Structure**

Understanding structure helps improve writing variety and clarity.

## **1. Simple Sentence**

#### **Definition**

A simple sentence has:

- **One independent clause**
- A subject + verb (can have objects, phrases)

#### **Examples**

- *The children laughed.*
- *I visited Lahore Fort.*
- *Our team won the competition yesterday.*

## **2. Compound Sentence**

## Definition

A compound sentence contains:

- **Two or more independent clauses**
- Joined by:
  - **Coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS)** → for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so
  - **Semicolon (;)**
  - **Conjunctive adverbs** (however, therefore, moreover)

## Examples

- *I wanted to go for a walk, but it started raining.*
- *He studied hard, and he passed the exam.*
- *The sun set; the sky turned orange.*

## 3. Complex Sentence

### Definition

A complex sentence contains:

- **One independent clause**
- **One or more dependent (subordinate) clauses**

### Begins with subordinating conjunctions

because, although, since, when, while, if, unless, that, who, which, etc.

### Examples

- *Although it was raining, we went outside.*
- *I will call you when I reach home.*
- *The man who is standing there is my teacher.*

## 4. Compound–Complex Sentence

### Definition

A compound-complex sentence contains:

- **At least two independent clauses**
- **One or more dependent clauses**

### Examples

- *Although Ali was tired, he finished the project, and he submitted it on time.*
- *I was cooking when the phone rang, and my sister answered it.*