

## Simple-Complex-Compound Sentence Rules

### Prerequisites:

#### 1. Simple Sentences

A **simple sentence** has the most basic elements that make it a sentence: a subject, a verb, and a completed thought.

Examples of **simple sentences** include the following:

1. Joe waited for the train.  
"Joe" = subject, "waited" = verb
2. The train was late.  
"The train" = subject, "was" = verb

A simple sentence can also be referred to as an **independent clause**. It is referred to as "independent" because, while it might be part of a compound or complex sentence, it can also stand by itself as a complete sentence.

#### 2. Compound Sentences

A **compound sentence** refers to a sentence made up of two independent clauses (or complete sentences) connected to one another with a **coordinating conjunction**. Coordinating conjunctions are easy to remember if you think of the words "FAN BOYS":

- For
- And
- Nor
- But
- Or
- Yet
- So

Examples of **compound sentences** include the following:

1. Joe waited for the train, **but** the train was late.
2. I looked for Mary and Samantha at the bus station, **but** they arrived at the station before noon and left on the bus before I arrived.
3. Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station before noon, **and** they left on the bus before I arrived.
4. Mary and Samantha left on the bus before I arrived, **so** I did not see them at the bus station.

### 3. Complex Sentences

A **complex sentence** is made up of an independent clause and one or more **dependent clauses** connected to it. A dependent clause is similar to an independent clause, or complete sentence, but it lacks one of the elements that would make it a complete sentence.

Examples of complex sentences include the following:

1. Because Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station before noon, I did not see them at the station.
2. While he waited at the train station, Joe realized that the train was late.
3. After they left on the bus, Mary and Samantha realized that Joe was waiting at the train station.

Dependent clauses begin with **subordinating conjunctions**. Below are some of the most common subordinating conjunctions:

- after
- although
- as
- because
- before
- even though
- if
- since
- though
- unless
- until
- when
- whenever
- whereas
- wherever
- while

A complex sentence joins an independent clause with one or more dependent clauses.

The dependent clauses can go first in the sentence, followed by the independent clause, as in the following:

**Tip:** When the dependent clause comes first, a comma should be used to separate the two clauses.

N.B: A **clause** is comprised of a group of words which includes a subject and a finite verb.

### Simple-Complex-Compound Conversion in brief:

Simple	Complex	Compound
Too---to	So---that	and so
to + verb (reason) / in order to/with a view to	so that+can/could+v1 in order that+can/could+v1	and so
Verb + ing/ At the time of	When/as/since	Sub-----and Sub
Because of/on account of /owing to/ due to/ for/present participle (reason)	as/ because/since	and so
Phrase of time	When/ while/ As soon as / No sooner had .... Than / Hardly...When/Scarcely...when	and
Phrase of place	Where/which	and
In spite of/despite	Though/although	But
Besides + verb +ing /as well as/both--and	As/since/who---as well /because/when	Not only---but also
Noun +Verb + ing	Noun + Relative Pronoun + Verb	and
Noun +be + adj/participle phrase Be(am/is/are/was/were)	Noun + Relative Pronoun + be + adj/participle	and
By + (Verb+ing)/In case of	If	Verb.....and
Without+(verb+ing) / in case of	Unless/if(negative sentence)	or
Appositive	Who/which	and

### Simple-Complex-Compound Conversion in detail:

CLUE: REASON			
	Simple	Complex	Compound
Marker	<b>Too---to</b>	<b>So---that</b>	<b>and so</b>
Examples	The load is <b>too</b> heavy for me <b>to</b> carry.	The load is <b>so</b> heavy <b>that</b> I cannot carry it.	The load is very heavy <b>and so</b> I cannot carry it.
	The boy was <b>too</b> weak <b>to</b> walk.	The boy was <b>so</b> weak <b>that</b> he could not walk.	The boy was very weak <b>and so</b> he could not walk.
Marker	<b>to + verb (reason) / in order to/with a view to</b>	<b>so that+can/could+v1 in order that+can/could+v1</b>	<b>and so</b>
Examples	Muhsin donated money <b>to support</b> the helpless people.	Muhsin donated money <b>so that</b> he could support the helpless people.	Muhsin wanted to support the helpless people <b>and so</b> he donated money.
	He goes to school <b>with a view to learning</b> .	He goes to school <b>so that</b> he can learn.	He wants to learn <b>and so</b> he goes to school

Marker	Verb + ing/ At the time of	When/as/since	Sub-----and Sub
Examples	Being lazy he could not prosper	As he was lazy, he could not prosper.	He was lazy and he could not prosper
	At the time of his waking up, it was raining	When he woke up, it was raining	He woke up and it was raining.
	The water being hot, I could not drink it.	As the water was hot, I could not drink it.	The water was hot and I could not drink it.
Marker	Because of/on account of /owing to/ due to/ for/present participle (reason)	as/ because/since	and so
Examples	<b>Because of</b> his poverty, he could not buy a new shirt.	<b>As</b> he was poor, he could not buy a new shirt.	He was poor <b>and so</b> he could not buy a new shirt.
	<b>Being</b> ill, he missed the important meeting.	He missed the important meeting <b>as</b> he was ill.	He was ill <b>and so</b> he missed the important meeting.
	Our departure was delayed <b>for</b> bad weather.	Our departure was delayed <b>because</b> the weather was bad.	The weather was bad <b>and so</b> our departure was delayed.

#### CLUE: TIME

	Simple	Complex	Compound
Marker	Phrase of time	When/ while/ As soon as / No sooner had .... Than / Hardly .... When / Scarcely .... when	and
Examples	<b>At the age of ten</b> , he left his house.	<b>When</b> he was ten, he left his house.	He was ten <b>and</b> he left house.
	<b>At the time of saying his prayer</b> , his mother came.	<b>While</b> he was saying his prayer, his mother came.	He was saying his prayer <b>and</b> his mother came.
	He gets up early <b>at 6 am</b> .	He gets up early <b>when</b> it is 6 am.	It is 6 am <b>and</b> he gets up early.
	<b>In winter season</b> , different types of Pithas are prepared in our rural areas.	<b>When</b> it is winter season, different types of Pithas are prepared in our rural areas.	It is winter season <b>and</b> different types of Pithas are prepared in our rural areas.
	Bangladesh became independent <b>in 1971</b> .	Bangladesh became independent <b>when</b> it was 1971.	It was 1971 <b>and</b> Bangladesh became independent
	He visits different places <b>on Monday</b> .	<b>When</b> it is Monday, he visits different places.	It is Monday <b>and</b> he visits different places.
	Hardly had he heard the news when he wrote to me.	As soon as he heard the news, he wrote to me.	He heard the news and he wrote me.
	At the time of the police's arriving/arrival, the crowd disappeared	As soon as the police arrived, the crowd disappeared.	The police arrived and the crowd disappeared.

### CLUE: CONTRAST

	Simple	Complex	Compound
Marker	<b>In spite of/despite</b>	<b>Though/although</b>	<b>But</b>
Examples	<b>In spite of</b> being a costly game, everybody like cricket game.	<b>Although</b> cricket is a costly game, everybody likes it.	Cricket is a costly game <b>but</b> everybody likes it.
	<b>Despite</b> being a wonder of modern science, mobile phone has also some demerits.	<b>Though</b> mobile phone is a wonder of modern science, it has also some demerits.	Mobile phone is a wonder of modern science <b>but</b> it has also some demerits.
Marker	<b>Besides + verb +ing /as well as/both--and</b>	<b>As/since/who---as well /because/when</b>	<b>Not only---but also</b>
	Besides being a singer, she is a dancer	She who is a singer is a dancer as well.	She is not only a singer but also a dancer.
	Besides giving him money, I gave him advice.	When I gave him money, I gave him advice	I gave him not only money but also good advice.

### CLUE: PLACE

	Simple	Complex	Compound
Marker	<b>Phrase of place</b>	<b>where, which</b>	<b>and</b>
Examples	Haji Mohammad Mohsin was born in Hoogly.	It was Hoogly where Haji Mohammad Mohsin was born.	It was Hoogly and Haji Mohammad Mohsin was born there.
	Madhusudan Dutt was born at Sagordary on the bank of the Kapotaksho.	Madhusudan Dutt was born at Sagordary which is on the bank of the Kapotaksho.	Madhusudan Dutt was born at Sagordary and it(S) is on the bank of the Kapotaksho.

### CLUE: SIMPLE SENTENCE

	Simple	Complex	Compound
Marker	<b>Noun + <del>Relative Pronoun</del> + Verb + ing</b>	<b>Noun + Relative Pronoun + Verb</b>	<b>and</b>
Examples	I have a brother <del>who</del> -reading at Chittagong University.	I have a brother who reads at Chittagong University	A have a brother and he reads at Chittagong University.
Marker	<b>Noun + <del>Relative Pronoun</del> + be + adj/participle phrase</b>	<b>Noun + Relative Pronoun + be + adj/participle</b>	<b>and</b>
	I saw a man walking in the field.	I saw a man who was walking in the field.	I saw a man who was walking in the field.
	I want a black shirt	I want a shirt which is black.	I want a shirt and it is black

CLUE: CONDITION			
	Simple	Complex	Compound
Marker	<b>By + (Verb+ing)/In case of</b>	<b>If</b>	<b>Verb---and</b>
Examples	By <b>studying</b> attentively, you can do well in the exam.	<b>If</b> you study attentively, you can do well in the exam.	Study attentively <b>and</b> you can do well in the exam.
	<b>In case of</b> his coming, I will go.	<b>If</b> he comes, I will go	He comes and then I will go.
Marker	<b>Without+(verb+ing) / in case of</b>	<b>Unless/if (negative sentence)</b>	<b>or</b>
Examples	Without working hard, you cannot go ahead.	Unless you work hard, you cannot go ahead.	Work hard or you cannot go ahead.
	In case of your failure to attend the meeting, I will not help you.	In case of your failure to attend the meeting, I will not help you.	Attend the meeting or I will not help you.
Marker	<b>Appositive</b>	<b>Who/which</b>	<b>and</b>
Examples	Kazi Nazrul Islam, a rebel poet, was born at Churulia.	Kazi Nazrul Islam who is a rebel poet, was born at Churulia.	Kazi Nazrul Islam is a rebel poet and he was born at Churulia.

CLUE: PERSON		
Connector	Simple	Complex
Who	The students studying regularly can expect a good result. People living in the high land can escape flood. An industrious man will shine in life. The man taking bribe is next to devil. A corrupted man can do anything against morality. The pious are happy	The students, <b>who</b> study regularly, can expect a good result. People, <b>who</b> live in the high land, can escape flood. A man, <b>who</b> is industrious, will shine in life. The man, <b>who</b> takes bribe, is next to devil. A man, <b>who</b> is corrupted, can do anything against morality. Those who are pious are happy.
What	I know this name.	I know what his name is.

OBJECT/CONCEPT		
Connector	Simple	Complex
Which, that	Health is wealth. The programs telecast by television are very interesting. He wants his students to be good citizens.	It is health <b>which</b> is wealth. The programs, <b>which are telecast by television</b> , are very interesting. He wants <b>that</b> his students will be good citizens.

## Must Practise problems of all boards:

### 1. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Once two women quarrelled over a baby, each claiming the baby as her own. (Compound)
- (b) As the dispute could not be settled, they were brought to a judge for a settlement. (Simple)
- (c) He also tried his best to make them accept the truth but both clung to their claims. (Simple)
- (d) At this, one woman remained quiet but the other one cried out in sorrow. (Complex)
- (e) Then the judge gave the baby to the weeping mother and punished the other one. (Simple)

### 2. Change the sentences according to directions

- (a) He has to make division of time to do his work properly. (Complex)
- (b) If he works sincerely, he can succeed in life. (Compound)
- (c) To him time is money. (Complex)
- (d) Since time does not wait for us, we should not waste away it. (Compound)
- (e) A time killer has to repent in the long run. (Complex)

### 3. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Optimism is a great quality. (Compound)
- (b) We all should be optimistic about life. (Complex)
- (c) We can attract the attention of others when we are optimistic. (Simple)

### 4. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Though he got a serious injury in Asia Cup, he accompanied Musfiquir Rahim with one hand. (simple)
- (b) Mustafijur Rahman is called the Cutter Master in cricket world. (complex)
- (c) As they played well in the last World Cup, they gave pleasure to the fans. (simple)
- (d) By practicing more and more, they will win the World Cup in future. (compound)

### 5. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) A corrupted man can do anything against morality. (Complex)
- (b) The man who takes bribed, is next to devil. (Simple)
- (c) Though we have strict law, we are still affected by this evil. (Compound)
- (d) We hope that Bangladesh will be free from this evil. (Simple)

### 6. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Traffic jam is the most serious problem in Dhaka city now. (Compound)
- (b) Sometimes this jam is so acute that it blocks more than a kilometer of a street. (Compound)
- (c) By taking some pragmatic steps we can solve this problem. (Complex)
- (d) Law should be implemented to ensure punishment. (Complex)

### 7. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) She told me something and I did not understand it. (Simple)
- (b) Usually, I hate doing all these. (Compound)
- (c) Bangladesh should educate English and ICT to all her people otherwise she cannot hope to be able to be digitalized. (Complex)
- (d) They could not reach the station in time since the weather was extremely rough. (Simple)



## ANSWERS:

### Answer: 1. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Once two women quarrelled over a baby and each of them claimed the baby as their own.
- (b) Owing to the unsettlement of the dispute, they were brought to a judge for a settlement.
- (c) In spite of his trying best to make them accept the truth, both of them clung to their claims.
- (d) At this, one woman remained quiet while the other cried out in sorrow.
- (e) Then giving the baby to the weeping mother the judge punished the other one.

### Answer: 2. Change the sentences according to directions

- (a) He has to make division of time so that he can do his work properly.
- (b) He works sincerely or he cannot succeed in life.
- (c) An active man never uses his time for an unproductive purpose.
- (d) Time does not wait for us and so we should not waste away time.
- (e) The person who is a time killer has to repent in the long run.

### Answer: 3. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Optimism is a quality and it is great.
- (b) It is life about which we all should be optimistic.
- (c) We can attract the attention of others being optimistic.

### Answer: 4. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) In spite of getting a serious injury in Asia Cup, he accompanied Musfiquir Rahim with one hand.
- (b) It is Mustafijur Rahman who is called the Cutter Master in cricket world.
- (c) They gave pleasure to the fans by playing well in the last World Cup.
- (d) They will practise more and more and win the World Cup in future.

### Answer: 5. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) A man who is corrupted can do anything against morality.
- (b) The man taking bribe is next to devil.
- (c) We have strict law but we are still affected by this evil.
- (d) We hope Bangladesh to be free from this evil.

### Answer: 6. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) Traffic jam is the most serious problem and it is in Dhaka City now.
- (b) Sometimes this jam is very acute and it blocks more than a kilometer of a street.
- (c) If we take some pragmatic steps, we can solve this problem.
- (d) Law should be implemented so that it can ensure punishment.

### Answer: 7. Change the sentences according to directions.

- (a) I did not understand her telling me something.
- (b) I hate doing all these and it is usual.
- (c) Bangladesh cannot hope to be able to be digitized unless she should educate English and ICT to all her people.
- (d) The weather being extremely rough, they could not reach the station in time. Or, They could not reach the station in time for the extremely rough weather.