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Simple compound and complex sentences rules and examples

A complex sentence is formed by adding one or more subordinate (dependent) clauses to the main (independent) clause (verb group). Complex sentences contain more than one clause (verb group). In technical, scientific and mathematical writing the logical relationship between the items that the conjunctions connect is not made explicit and introduces comprehension complications. These writing genres bring the challenging elements of unfamiliar vocabulary including jargon and technical words, lexically dense sentences and an element of 'guessing' or interpreting the data in relation to the task. For many students the concepts or subject matter are unfamiliar and therefore problematic. For example: Verbs The ice melts as the temperature rises. Students have to interpret causality in the sentence "The ice melts as the temperature rises" as meaning that the events happen simultaneously and the rise in temperature causes the ice to melt. The sugar dissolves when placed in water because water is a solvent. Here the ellipsis of it is' increases the difficulty for students. None of these meanings are made explicit but have to be 'recovered'. Causality has to be inferred from the sentences using the student's knowledge of grammar and the water acting as a solvent has to be inferred from students' contextual knowledge of the subject. Constructing complex sentences complex sentences complex sentences complex sentences complex sentences complex sentences complex sentences. clause. There are three main ways to join clauses to make complex sentences. By using: relative pronouns - that, which, who, whose. conjunctions (subordinating) - while, because, although, as, when, until, unless, through, by, since, whenever, if, where, before, etc. verb structures (non-finite) - (participle) verb forms that end in -ing or -ed or an infinitive verb form such as to go, to become, to see. This PowerPoint, developed by teachers, may be useful in helping your student understand how complex sentences (PPTX 1620.5KB) Activities to support the strategy Activity 1: modelling clauses through shared and modelled reading Use current classroom texts and or select suitable texts online Students have a wide range of clause combinations read to them through quality texts with the clause grouping emphasised through intonation and pausing. Students identify simple, compound and complex sentences (including main and subordinate clause/s) as they read or as sentences are read to students. Students identify the number of ideas contained within modelled sentences from texts and then identify which idea is the main (independent clause) that can stand on its own. Activity 2: innovating on authentic texts and using students' own work Change two sentences into a compound sentence. Change several sentences into one complex sentence. Add adjectival clauses to describe the nouns and make the sentence more interesting. Activity 3: worksheets for embedded clauses Use the following website to access the worksheets to initially teach from and then to practice in small groups. Embedded clauses - primary resources (DOC 134KB) Activity 4: sentence work games Using the resources cut up and laminated, firstly explicitly teach using them and then using one or more dice have groups of students either orally or as a written activity follow the game rules. Complex sentences game (PDF 413.73KB) References Australian curriculum ACELA1507: Expressing and developing ideas: Understand the difference between main and subordinate clauses and that a complex sentence involves at least one subordinate clause. NSW syllabus EN3-6B: Outcome 6: uses knowledge of sentence involves at least one subordinate clause. different media and technologies (EN3-6B) - Understand and apply knowledge of language forms and features: understand the difference between main and subordinate clauses and that a complex sentence involves at least one subordinate clause. They have "complex" right in their name, but don't worry - forming complex sentences isn't as hard as it sounds. Complex sentences vary your sentences tyle and length, making your writing more interesting for readers. Keep reading to learn the structure and rules for writing complex sentences contain an independent clause (sometimes called a subordinate clause). Unlike compound sentences, which connect two independent clauses, at least half of a complex sentence can't stand alone as its own complete thought. Take a closer look at each part of a complex sentence. The independent clause in a complex sentence contains a subject and a verb. It can stand by itself without additional parts of a sentence. Examples of independent clauses would be:Dinner was very tasty. She returned the earrings. John didn't buy coffee. You get the general idea of what is happening in each sentence. However, they aren't very interesting by themselves. They need a bit more detail to engage the reader. Dependent clauses, also known as subordinate clauses, are incomplete thoughts. They provide more details to a sentence but can't stand alone as their own sentences. Some examples of dependent clauses include: Because Mateo is a wonderful cookAfter noticing they were scratchedWhen he realized he had no moneyThese clauses contain interesting details, but without the context of an independent clause, they don't make much sense. Complex sentences can have one or more dependent clauses, or words. Subordinate conjunctions are connecting words between these clauses, or words. Subordinate conjunctions are connecting words between these clauses, such as time, place, purpose, condition, or cause. Some examples of subordinating conjunctions include: afteralthoughas because beforeeven thoughnow that though unless when wherewhile You've probably been taught that you can't start sentences with these words. That's true if you're trying to make a dependent clause work as a complete sentence. However, if you're writing a complex sentence that ends with an independent clause, you can start sentences with because, unless, while, after, or any other subordinating conjunction. Now that you know the parts of a complex sentence, you can create your own. If you combine the independent clauses above, you get complex sentences. Here are examples of these complex sentences (notice subordinate conjunctions in bold): Dinner was very tasty because Mateo is a wonderful cook. She returned the earrings after noticing they were scratched. John didn't buy coffee when he realized he had no money. These sentences are already more interesting than their simple forms. But the beauty of complex sentences is your ability to change the form even more. Look what happens when you start the sentence with the dependent clauses: Because Mateo is a wonderful cook, dinner was very tasty. After noticing they were scratched, she returned the earrings. When he realized he had no money, John didn't buy coffee. If you're feeling even more creative, consider adding additional dependent clauses to these sentences: As I expected, dinner was very tasty because they were scratched. When he realized he had no money, John didn't buy coffee, which set the tone for the rest of the day. Even though these dependent clauses make the sentence more interesting, the independent clause in each sentence provides the most important information. Making simple sentences into complex sentences into complex sentences in guide you on your sentence structure journey. It's easy to mix up compound and complex sentences - Independent clause and dependent clause (s) connected with a subordinating conjunction. Compound sentences - Two independent clauses connected with a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so). You can also remember the difference by looking at each clause more important than the other? For example: Jessica loves the beach, and she also loves the mountains. (Compound) Jessica loves the beach because the weather is warm. (Complex) Jessica loves the beach and the mountains equally in the compound sentence only explains why she loves the beach; it's not a new idea. Here's an example of compound and complex sentence only explains why she loves the beach; it's not a new idea. Here's an example of compound and complex sentence only explains why she loves the beach; it's not a new idea. Here's an example of compound sentence only explains why she loves the beach; it's not a new idea. Here's an example of compound sentence only explains why she loves the beach and the mountains equally in the compound sentence. dealership. (Compound)We decided to buy a car so we can travel more easily. (Complex)This is a tricky one because so is a coordinating conjunction in the first sentence, and a subordinating conjunction in the second sentence. But the first sentence puts the speaker in a new place (the dealership) while the complex sentence simply explains why they want to buy a car. If you want to get really fancy with your sentences, consider writing compound-complex sentences include two independent clauses joined together with a coordinating conjunction as well as a dependent clause joined together with a coordinate conjunction. Here's an example of the sentences above as compound-complex sentences: Jessica loves the beach because the weather is warm, but she also loves the mountains. We wanted to travel more easily, so we went to the dealership because we decided to buy a car. These sentences can be lyrical and engaging for the reader. But take care to add compound-complex sentences sparingly - they do best when included in a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences. A complex sentence allows for a thoroughly deep dive. When writing, they also serve their purpose in scholastic essays and a wide range of other writing. For more help on improving your writing, read an informative article about building sentence variety into your paragraphs. M.Ed. Education how to use simple compound and complex sentences. how to use compound and complex sentences examples. how to explain simple compound and complex sentences. what is simple compound and complex sentences.

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