

Name: _____

Compound Sentences vs. Complex Sentences

A compound sentence has two independent clauses. It is like two complete sentences combined into one. A complex sentence has a subordinate clause and an independent clause. The subordinate clause modifies a word in the independent clause.

Read the following sentences. Check the box marked “compound” if it is a compound sentence. Check the box marked “complex” if it is a complex sentence.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Kerry called the fire department, and they arrived very quickly. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 2. After he got home, my father read us a story. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 3. We couldn't go to the beach because the car broke down. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 4. The magician pulled a rabbit from his hat, but the audience did not applaud. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 5. The baby elephant followed its mother because the lion was very close. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 6. The forest was dark and gloomy, yet the children ran into it fearlessly. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 7. The campers stayed in the tent while the cold rain fell. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 8. Jane and Louise bought popcorn before the movie started. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 9. Peter worked hard on his homework, yet he didn't finish it. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |
| 10. The baseball player ran to second base when the pitcher dropped the ball. | <input type="checkbox"/> Compound | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex |

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