

# Sentence Structures

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CLAUSES, SIMPLE SENTENCE, COMPOUND SENTENCE, COMPLEX SENTENCE,  
COMPOUND COMPLEX SENTENCES.

# PHRASES

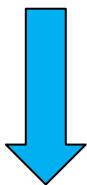
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- These groups of words do not make complete sense.
- Also they do not have a subject and a predicate.
- No verb is seen here.

Such groups of words are called  
PHRASES.

These sentences are divided into two parts.

The cubs were playing near the cave.



CLAUSE



The cubs were playing



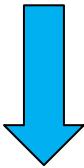
PHRASE



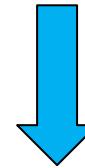
near the cave

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She meditates in the morning for good health.



CLAUSE



PHRASE



She meditates in the morning

for good health

# CLAUSES

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## CLAUSE

A **clause** is a part of the sentence that contains a verb. A typical clause consists of a subject and a predicate, the latter typically a verb phrase, a verb with any objects and other modifiers.

### For example:

- He must stop laughing.
- They have done the job.
- Tom likes the meat.
- We like the music that you broug



## Types of clauses

Main or independent clause

Subordinate or dependent clause

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

# Independent and Dependent Clauses

- An **independent clause** is a group of words that contains a **subject** and **verb** and expresses a **complete thought**. An independent clause is a sentence.
  - Jim studied in the cafeteria for his chemistry quiz.
- A **dependent clause** is a group of words that contains a **subject** and **verb** but does **not express a complete thought**. A dependent clause cannot be a sentence. Often a dependent clause is marked by a **dependent marker word**.
  - When Jim studied in the cafeteria for his Chemistry quiz. (NOT a sentence!)

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I saw a bird which was flying.

Smith realized that he had made a mistake.

Two clauses

I saw a bird

which was flying.

Dependent Clause

Smith realized

Independent Clause

Main Clause

Subordinate Clause



# TYPES OF SUBORDINATING CLAUSES

## Noun Clause

a dependent clause that functions as a noun

Pepperoni is fine with me.

↳ noun acting as subject

Whatever you want is fine with me.

↳ noun clause acting as subject



## Adjective Clause

a dependent clause that functions as an adjective

The angry tiger snarled at me.

↳ adjective describing tiger

The tiger that was angry snarled at me.

↳ adjective clause describing tiger

## Adverb Clause

a dependent clause that functions as an adverb

I will eat my broccoli now.

adverb modifying *will eat*



I will eat my broccoli after I eat this cookie.

adverb clause modifying *will eat*



# SIMPLE SENTENCES

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A simple sentence is the most basic sentence that we have in English. It has just one independent clause, which means only one subject and one predicate.

- Rohit ate.
- Rohit ate dinner.
- Rohit ate dinner with his brother and sister.
- Last night, Rohit ate dinner at a restaurant with his brother and sister.

# STRUCTURE OF SIMPLE SENTENCE

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**THE SUBJECT**

**THE PREDICATE**

**THE OBJECT**

**THE COMPLEMENTS**

**THE MODIFIERS**

# PREDICATE

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The predicate of a sentence is a verb or verb phrase which tells us something about the subject.



Veronica **likes** ice-cream.

- Hema **ate** pizza.
- Aman **went to the beach**.
- The elephant **ate**  
**bananas at the zoo**.

# SUBJECT

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The subject answers the question **who** or **what** and is often a noun or a pronoun. A subject can be either one word or a group of words that functions as a noun.



**Jane is a smart girl.**

- **We** looked.
- **They** cooked.
- **The dog** barked.
- **The baby** cried.

# OBJECT

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An object is a noun or a noun phrase that is affected by the action of a verb or that follows a preposition. It is a part of the predicate. It answers the question ‘what’ or ‘who’.

I helped my mother.  
(who)

# THE COMPLIMENT

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**A complement is a word or phrase that complements or completes the subject, the object or the verb of a sentence by adding more information to it.**

- Subject Complements
- Object Complements

# SUBJECT COMPLIMENT

Subject complements are usually adjectives or nouns that rename, define and describe the subject in some way.



Daniel is a policeman.

- The water tastes salty.
- Meena is an intelligent girl.
- Every morning is a gift.

# OBJECT COMPLIMENTS

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Object complements can be nouns or adjectives, which modify or describe the objects further.



The father found the child sleeping.

- We found the old building empty.
- Asha kept her house clean.
- They chose the candidate who was the best.

# MODIFIERS

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**Modifiers are words or group of words that change or add to the meaning of another word.**

## TYPES OF MODIFIERS

**Subject modifiers**

**Predicate modifiers**

# SUBJECT MODIFIERS

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Modifiers of the subject are either adjectives or equivalent of an adjective.



The plane damaged by the storm made an emergency landing.

- The **little** girl could not cross the road.
- The **fat** panda ate the corn.

# PREDICATE MODIFIERS

Modifiers of the predicate will always be an adverb or its equivalent.



The girl ate her breakfast in a  
hurry.

- He held the puppy **gently**.
- Rita finished the race **quickly**.

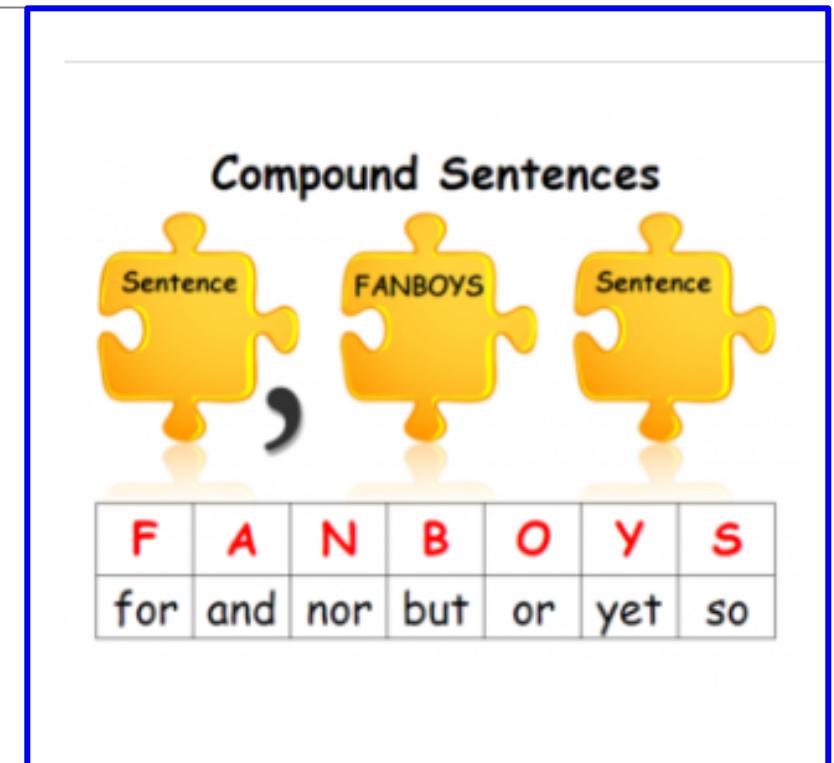
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# COMPOUND SENTENCE



Just as a chemical compound consists of two or more elements, a compound sentence also consists of two or more coordinate clauses.

As different elements are held together by chemical bonds in a chemical compound, coordinate clauses are held together by coordinating conjunctions.



## COMPOUND SENTENCES

- A compound sentence has two independent clauses, each of which has a subject and verb and can stand alone.
- The two clauses have equal weight in terms of the ideas contained in them.
- The two clauses should be linked correctly, with a comma and then a linking word at the place where one sentence ends and the other begins.

# CONNECTIVES

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Simple sentences can be joined using



COORDINATING  
CONJUNCTIONS

SUBORDINATING  
CONJUNCTIONS

CORRELATIVE  
CONJUNCTIONS

CONJUNCTIVE  
ADVERBS

# FANBOYS

<b>FOR</b>	Beacuse	I have to find a new job, <b>for</b> I am unemployed.
<b>AND</b>	In addition to	I have one dog <b>and</b> three love birds.
<b>NOR</b>	And not	Neither Mark <b>nor</b> Mary were at the school yesterday.
<b>BUT</b>	Howeover	I go to work on Sundays, <b>but</b> I don't go to work on Saturday.
<b>OR</b>	Either	Does Clark have any brothers <b>or</b> sisters?
<b>YET</b>	But	I really wanted my son to study at university, <b>yet</b> he left the school.
<b>SO</b>	Therefore	My daughter is very smart, <b>so</b> everybody likes her.

# FORMATION AND STRUCTURE OF COMPOUND SENTENCES

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We can join the independent clauses in a compound sentence using the following methods.

BY USING A COMMA AND A COORDINATING CONJUNCTION

BY USING A SEMICOLON

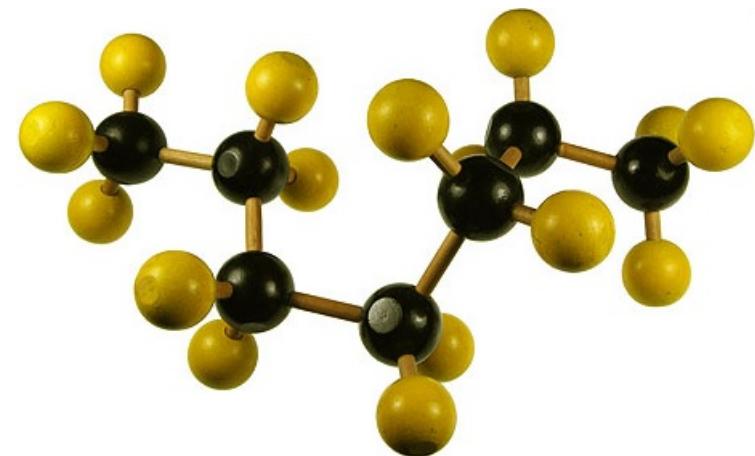
BY USING A SEMICOLON WITH A CONJUNCTIVE ADVERB  
(TRANSITIONAL EXPRESSION)

# FORMATION OF COMPOUND SENTENCES

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BY USING A COMMA AND A COORDINATING CONJUNCTION

The comma comes before the conjunction, not after it.



# STRUCTURE

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Independent clause + Comma (,) + Coordinating conjunction +  
Independent clause

IC + , + CC + IC

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John wishes he could be smarter, **for** all his friends in the college are very smart.

Little Mary searched everywhere for her doll, **but** she could not find it.

She is innocent, **so** she gets fooled easily.

# STRUCTURE WITH SEMICOLON

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The independent clause after the semicolon does not begin with a capital letter unless it is a proper noun.

Independent clause + [ ; ] + independent clause + [ . ]

Mary cut the vegetables; Cathy cooked the food.

Give me five minutes; I will try to find your file.

# BY USING A SEMICOLON WITH CONJUNCTIVE ADVERB (TRANSITIONAL EXPRESSION)

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A conjunctive adverb shows the relationship between two ideas.

He was habitually late for the work; consequently, his boss fired him.

I was tired after the long travel; nevertheless, I spent a lot of time with my kids before taking rest.

# STRUCTURE

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## COMPOUND SENTENCE WITH A CONJUNCTIVE ADVERB

Independent clause + [ ; ] + conjunctive adverb + [ , ] + independent clause + [ . ]

I have worked as hard as I can; therefore, I expect a good result.

## Conjunctive Adverbs

A conjunctive adverb connects two independent clauses.

### Cause or effect

Therefore  
Hence  
Accordingly  
Then  
Thus

### Sequence

Next  
Furthermore  
In addition  
Finally  
Moreover

### Time

Before  
Meanwhile  
Now  
Since  
Lately

### Contrast

However  
Instead  
Rather  
In spite of

### Emphasis

Indeed  
Of course  
Certainly

### Summarize

Finally  
In conclusion  
In summary

### Illustrate

For example  
Namely  
For instance

### Comparison

Also  
Likewise  
Similarly

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# COMPLEX SENTENCES

# COMPLEX SENTENCE

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A complex sentence contains one main (independent) clause and one or more subordinate clauses.



Subordinate clauses generally begin with a subordinate conjunction.

Although I was tired, I continued the work.

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The dependent clause is introduced with a subordinating conjunction.

After a dependent clause a comma is used which introduces an independent clause.

When Frank Turner performed at the opening ceremony of Olympics 2012, there was a large gathering listening to him.

Dependent clause

Comma

Independent clause

If dependent clause comes first, in a sentence comma will be used just after dependent clause ends and independent clause starts.



No comma is necessary when the independent comes first.

There was a large gathering listening to him when Frank Turner performed at the opening ceremony of Olympics 2012.

Independent clause

Dependent clause



## POSITION OF THE SUBORDINATE CLAUSE IN A COMPLEX SENTENCE

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The subordinate clause in a complex sentence can take either beginning, middle or end positions.

Thus, a complex sentence contains an independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

# SUBORDINATE CLAUSE FOLLOWED BY MAIN CLAUSE

1. When the music started, the children began dancing.



2. Although it was raining, Cathy went out without a rain coat.  
3. After the wind had stopped, the rain started.

# MAIN CLAUSE FOLLOWED BY SUBORDINATE CLAUSE

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- The old man continued his journey though he was tired.
- We will perform well if we work hard.



- Maya stopped her work to rest for some time because she was tired.

# Subordinating conjunctions followed by a dependent clause

(note the various positions of the dependent clause).

The people grumbled against their leader **although they were treated well.**

End

Because he had no money to pay the fees, John could not join his dream course.

Beginning

The workers, **although they were paid well**, did not come for work.

Middle

# COMPOUND COMPLEX SENTENCES

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A compound-complex sentence brings both of these sentence forms together. That is, it contains at least two independent clauses (like a compound sentence) and at least one dependent clause (like a complex sentence).

For example:

Erin loves her brother, and he loves her too because she pays his bills.

The dog ran off when I chased him, but I didn't care.

Though my mother says it doesn't matter, I am tall, and she is short.

## NOTE \*

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The dependent clause can be at the beginning, middle, or end of a compound-complex sentence.

No matter where it is placed, the punctuation follows the rules for both compound sentences and complex sentences.

That means that you need to put a comma before the coordinating conjunction and, if applicable, another comma after the dependent clause when it occurs at the beginning of the sentence.

# EXAMPLES

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- When I went to the store, my parents wanted me to pick up some milk, but I didn't have enough money.
- Even if the child is hungry, he will never eat oatmeal, but he will always eat ice cream.
- The man was mean because he was lonely, but his attitude only made his situation worse.
- The dog needed a new leash, and he couldn't go for a walk until he had one.
- It is important to vote when the time comes, or you won't get a say in new laws.

# Simple sentence

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Are always single and  
happy to be alone.

1 verb

I went to the mall.

# Compound Sentence



Married

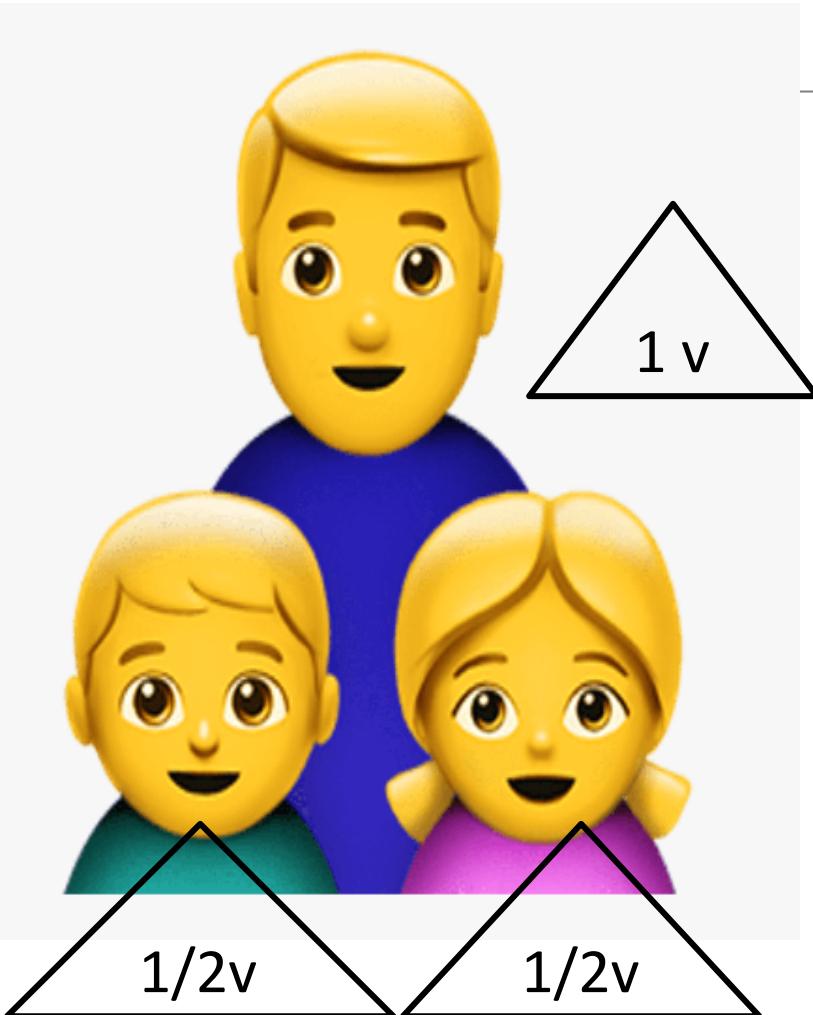
When two independent clauses are  
Joined by comma + coordinating conjunctions,  
semicolon & semicolon + conjunctive adverb+  
comma

Eg. I went to the mall and I purchased clothes.

1+1 verb

# COMPLEX SENTENCES

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One dependent + one independent clause. You can have any number of verbs here. It is joined with the help of **subordinating conjunctions**

Eg. I went to the mall which is near my house.

1+1/2+1/2 verb

Single parent (divorced)

1. A simple sentence consists of
  - a) one independent thought
  - b) one independent clause
  
2. An independent clause contains
  - a) a subject and a verb
  - b) a subject and an object
  
3. A compound sentence consists of
  - a) one or more independent clauses
  - b) two or more independent clauses
  
4. Independent clauses can be joined by using
  - a) a coordinating conjunction
  - b) a subordinating conjunction
  
5. Which is a compound sentence?
  - a) I like walking on the beach with my dog.
  - b) I like walking but my dog likes running.

6. A complex sentence consists of an independent clause plus

- a) a subordinating conjunction
- b) a dependent clause

7. A dependent clause can begin with a relative pronoun or a

- a) a subordinating conjunction
- b) a coordinating conjunction

8. "I like him because he's funny." Which is the dependent clause?

- a) I like him
- b) because he's funny

9. Which is a complex sentence?

- a) I was late because I missed my train.
- b) We got up late so I missed my train.

10. A compound-complex sentence consists of two or more independent clauses and

- a) one or more dependent clauses
- b) two or more dependent clauses

# Answers

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1. one independent clause
2. a subject and a verb
3. two or more independent clauses
4. a coordinating conjunction
5. I like walking but my dog likes running.
6. a dependent clause
7. a subordinating conjunction
8. because he's funny
9. I was late because I missed my train.
10. one or more dependent clauses

## Subordinating Conjunction

Contrast: although, though, even though

Reason: Because, since, as

Place: where, wherever, everywhere

Purpose: so that, so, because+want

Result: so that, so... that, such.. That

Time: when, before, after, since, while, by the time

Conditional: if, unless, as long as, provided (that)