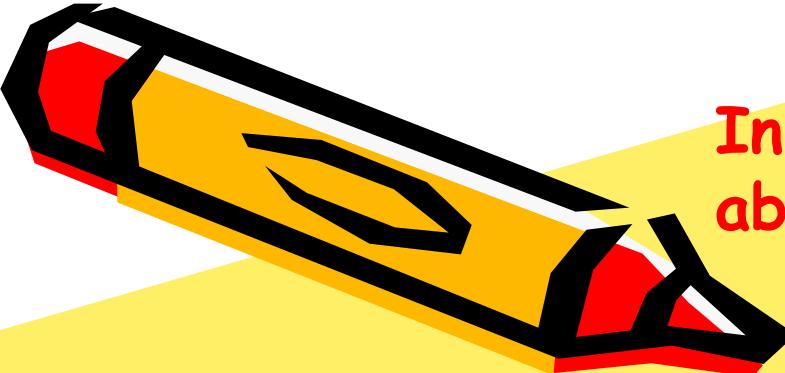


**University Writing Center**

Grammar/Mechanics Workshop

**Sentence Patterns**

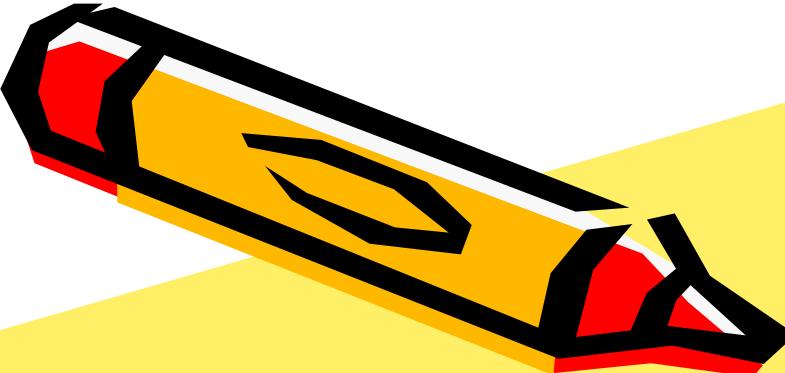




In this workshop, we will learn  
about....

Sentence construction  
Subject and predicate  
Nouns and pronouns

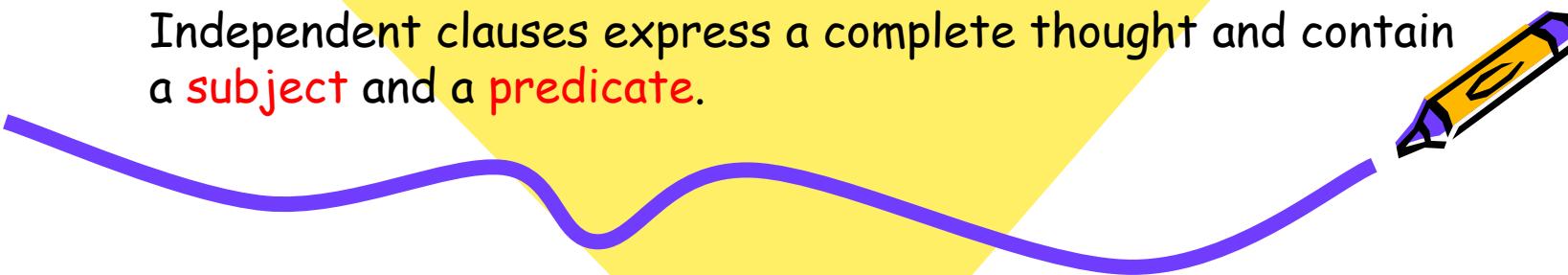
Four sentence types  
Simple  
Compound  
Complex  
Compound-Complex



# Sentence

Generally, every sentence consists of a **subject** and a **predicate**.

Independent clauses express a complete thought and contain a **subject** and a **predicate**.

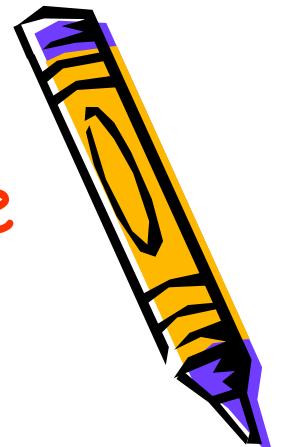
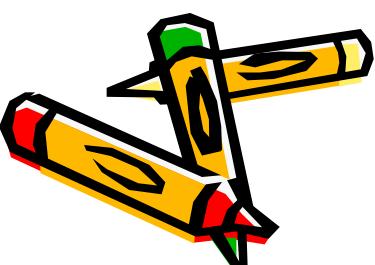


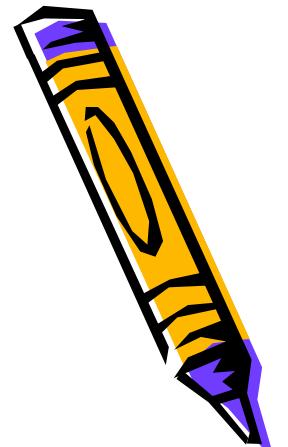
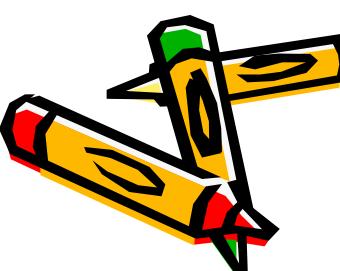
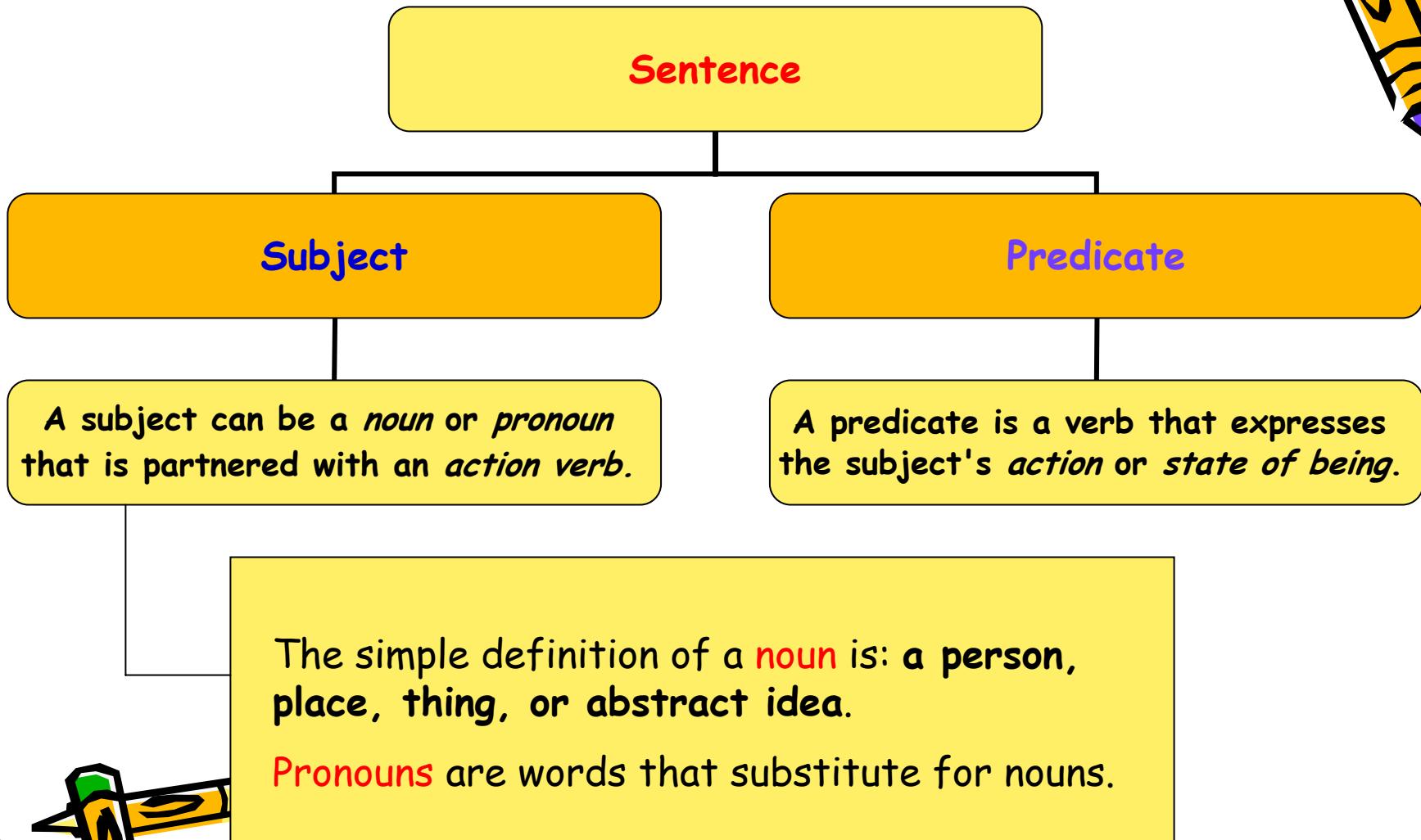
# What is a subject and a predicate in a sentence?

Every complete sentence contains two parts: a **subject** and a **predicate**.

Examples:

1. Marshall **runs**.
2. Marshall and Jermaine **run on the beach every morning**.





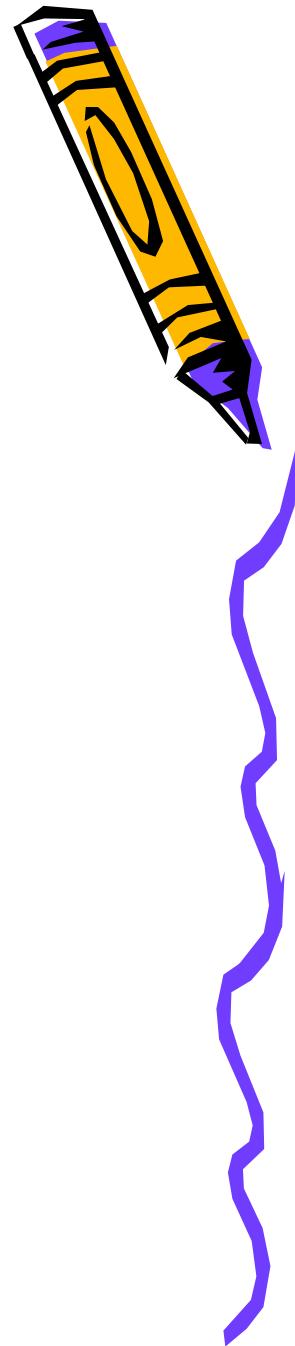
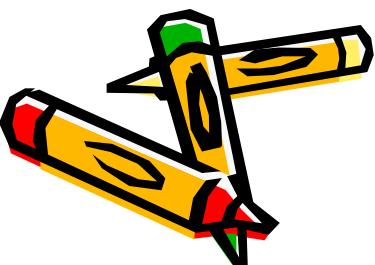
# Four Basic Kinds of Sentences

**Simple**

**Compound**

**Complex**

**Compound-Complex**



# Simple Sentence

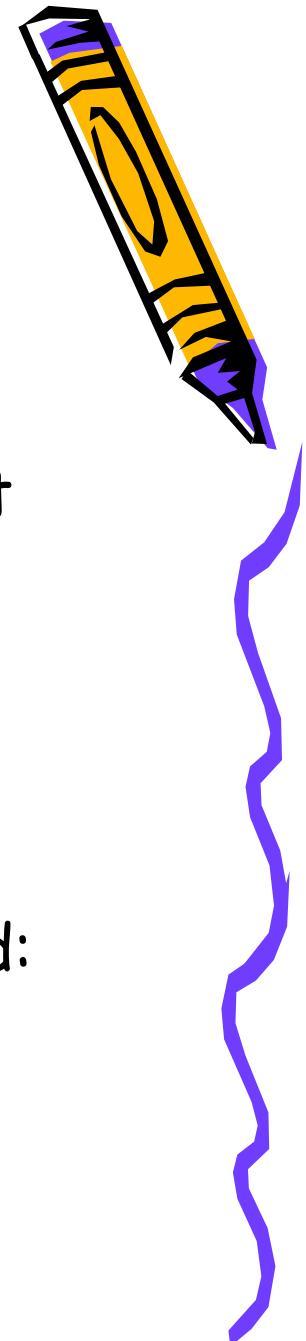
The most basic type of sentence is the **simple sentence**, which contains only one independent clause.

**Example:**

Burger King has the best hamburgers.

A **simple sentence** can be as short as one word:

**Stop!**



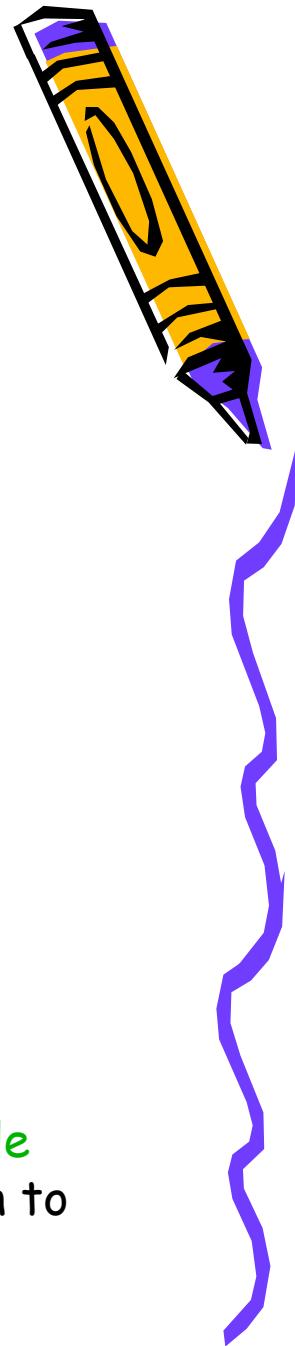
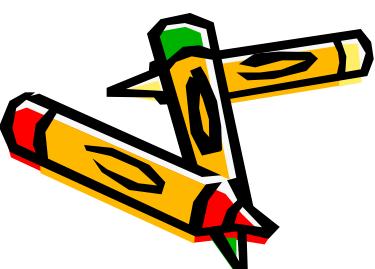
Usually, the sentence has a **subject** as well as a **predicate**, and both of them may have modifiers. All of the following are **simple sentences** because each contains only one clause:

1. Melt!

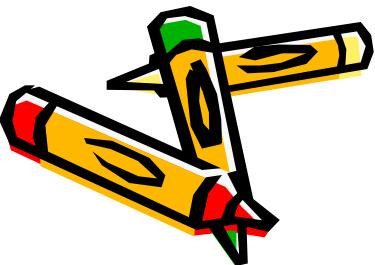
2. Ice melts.

3. The ice melts quickly.

The most natural sentence structure is the **simple sentence**; it is the first kind which children learn to speak, and it remains by far the most common sentence in the spoken language.



- Simple sentences can be very effective for grabbing a reader's attention.
- They are also useful for summing up an argument.
- Be aware: too many simple sentences can make your writing seem childish.
- When you do use simple sentences, you should add transitional phrases to connect them to the surrounding sentences.

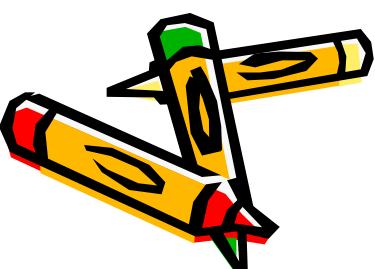


# Compound Sentences

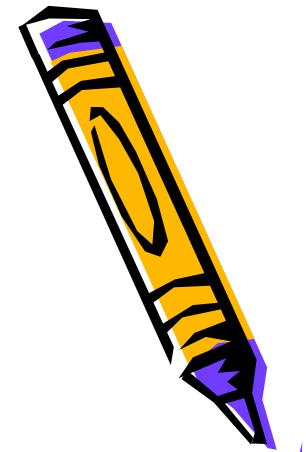
A **compound sentence** consists of two or more independent clauses (or simple sentences) joined by coordinating conjunctions:

**for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so.**

Quick Hint: Remember "**FANBOYS**"



# Example of a Compound Sentence



Simple

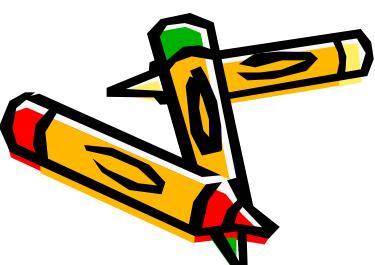
Austria is a beautiful country.

Simple

Austria has many poor people.

Compound

Austria is a beautiful country, *but* it has many poor people.



## Transitional Words or Phrases

Transitional words or phrases connect one idea to another. They have different purposes.

- **To Show Chronological Order**

afterward, again, also, as long as, as soon as, at last, before, besides, earlier, equally important, furthermore, meanwhile, moreover, simultaneously, soon, then, therefore, too, until, when

- **To Indicate Spatial Order**

above, below, beyond, elsewhere, farther on, here, near, nearby

- **To Connect Examples or Show Emphasis**

for example, for instance, in fact, of course, specifically, such as

- **To Compare and Contrast**

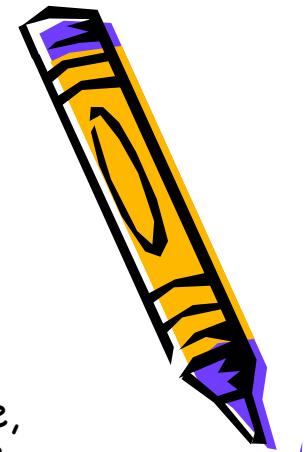
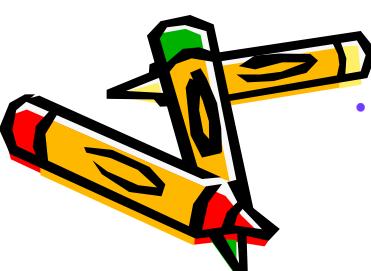
in comparison, also, likewise, similarly, although, on the contrary, and yet, but, despite, even so, however, yet

- **To Trace Cause and Effect**

because, consequently, otherwise, since, then, therefore

- **To Summarize**

in short, in simpler terms, in summary, that is, to summarize



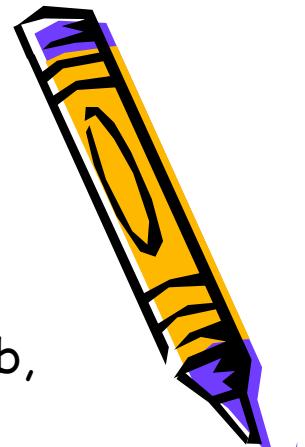
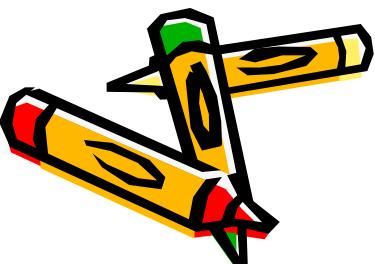
# For Review:

An **independent clause** is comprised of a subject, a verb, and a complete thought.

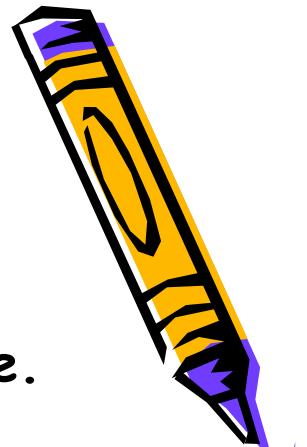
I wrote my first novel last year.

A **dependent clause** is comprised of a subject and a verb, but an incomplete thought.

after I wrote my first novel last  
year



# Complex Sentences



A **complex sentence** is a sentence with an independent clause and at least one dependent clause. The dependent clause is introduced by either a subordinate conjunction such as *although*, *while*, or *because*, or a relative pronoun such as *who* or *which*.

## Simple

My friend invited me to a party. I do not want to go.

## Compound

My friend invited me to a party, but I do not want to go.

## Complex

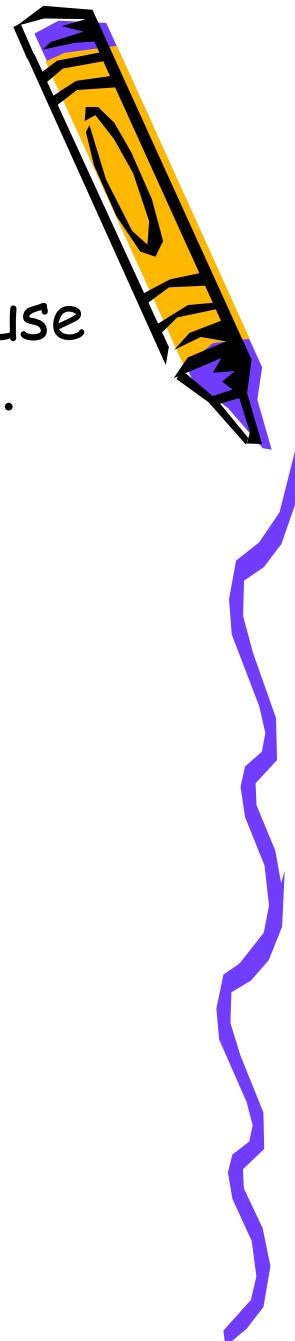
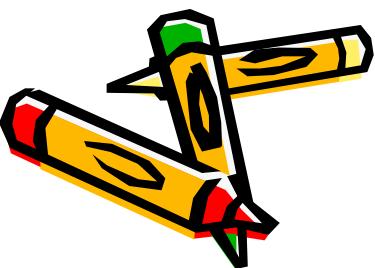
Although my friend invited me to a party, I do not want to go.



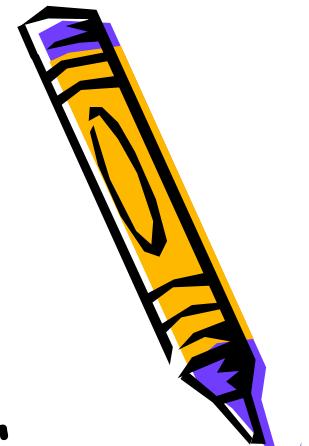
A **complex sentence** is very different from a **simple sentence** or a **compound sentence** because it makes clear which ideas are most important.

### Examples:

1. Although Tom reads novels, Jack reads comics.
2. When he was younger, Mike had many dogs.
3. Many people enjoyed the movie; however, William did not.



# Compound-complex sentence



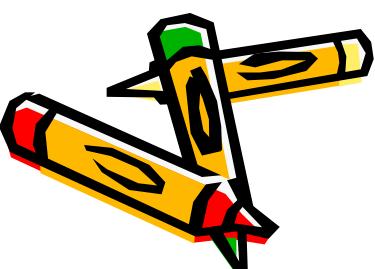
A Compound-complex sentence has two independent clauses joined to one or more dependent clauses.

While Tom reads novels, Jack reads comics, but Sam only reads magazines.

Dependent clause

Independent clause

Independent clause

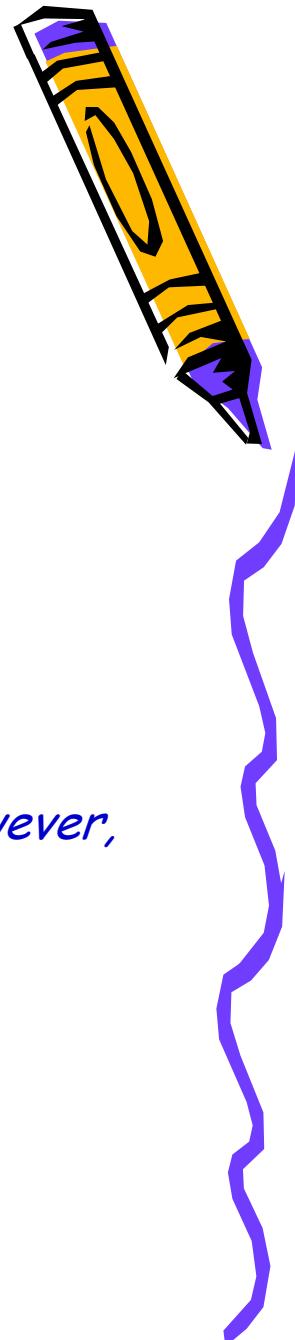
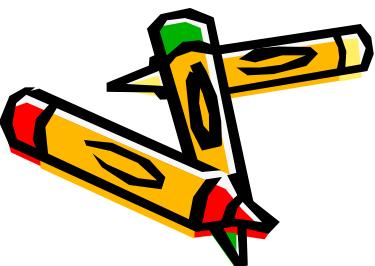


## *Connectors for Compound-complex sentences*

Two independent clauses may be joined by coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS) or conjunctive adverbs.

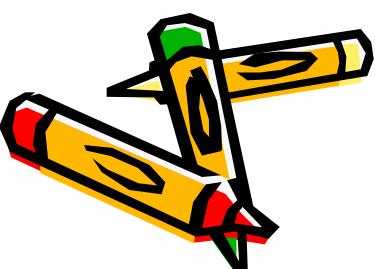
Examples of conjunctive adverbs:

*furthermore, meanwhile, therefore, hence, moreover, thus, however, and nevertheless*



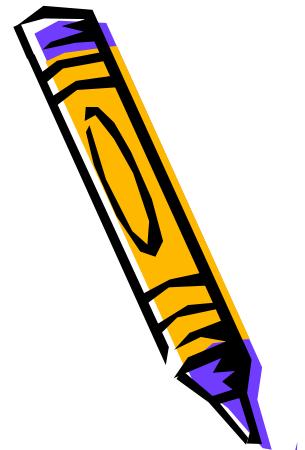
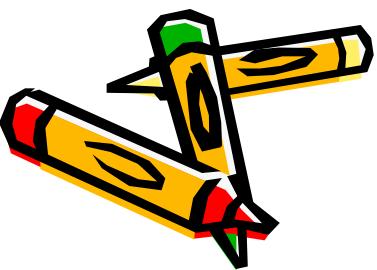
# Examples of compound-complex sentences

1. The manual will be helpful, and the instructions will be clear when you read them because they are well written.
2. John went to school; however, James remained home because he had a sore throat.
3. Carmelo is watching T.V, but Allen is at practice because he did not play very well.



# Quick Quiz

Is it a simple, compound,  
complex, or compound-  
complex sentence?



# Sentence 1

Because of her disdain for the north,  
Wilma moved to Miami.

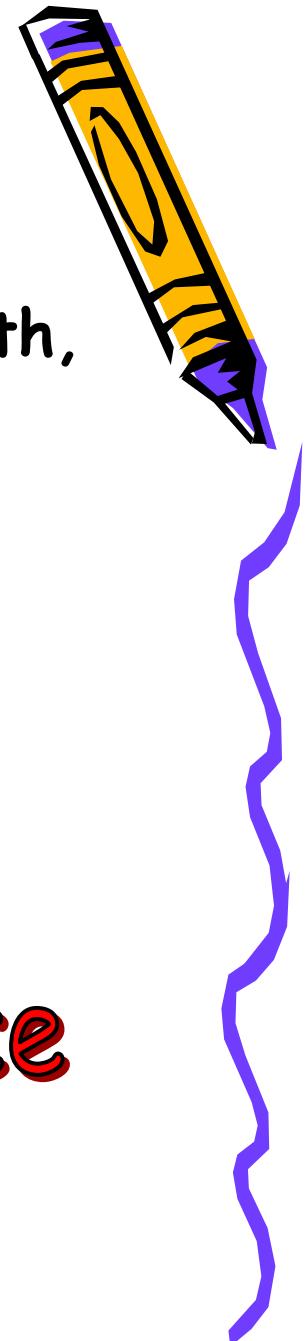
Simple Sentence

Compound Sentence

Complex Sentence

Compound-Complex Sentence

Complex Sentence



# Sentence 2

The three male siblings were determined to gain their independence, and each desired a dwelling of his own.

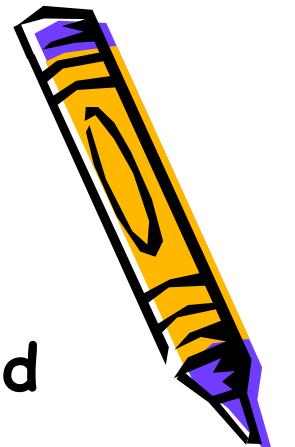
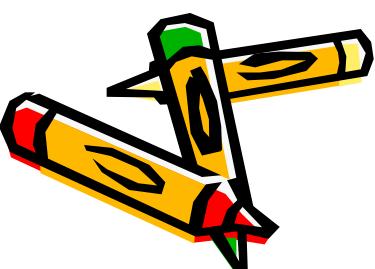
Simple Sentence

Compound Sentence

Complex Sentence

Compound-Complex Sentence

**Compound Sentence**



# Sentence 3

Because of the string of robberies,  
Cindy carries a bottle of pepper spray.

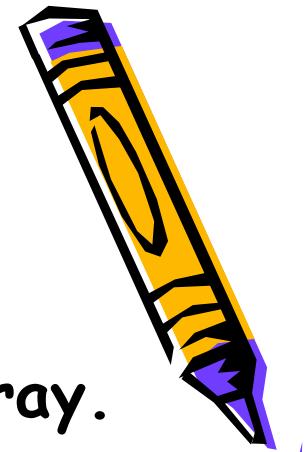
Simple Sentence

Compound Sentence

Complex Sentence

Compound-Complex Sentence

**Complex Sentence**



# Sentence 4

Biffington is from Alabama; Wayne is from Missouri.

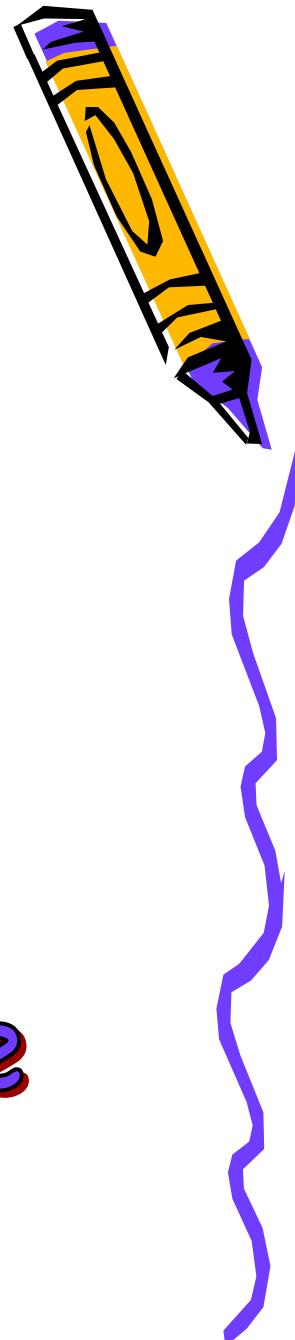
Simple Sentence

Compound Sentence

Complex Sentence

Compound-Complex Sentence

**Compound Sentence**



# Sentence 5

Jamaal spends all of his money on sneakers.

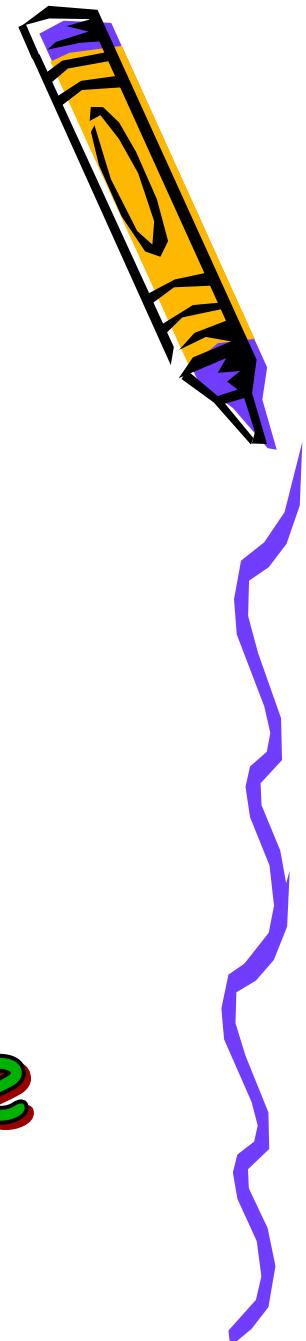
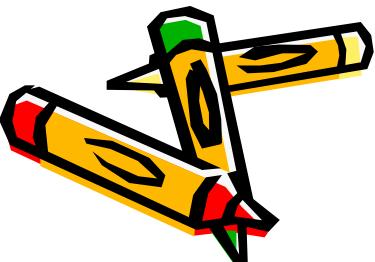
Simple Sentence

Compound Sentence

Complex Sentence

Compound-Complex Sentence

**Simple Sentence**



# Sentence 6

“Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those that matter don't mind.”

-Dr. Suess

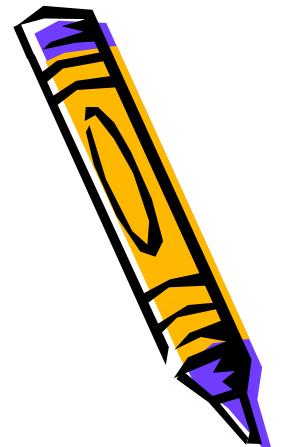
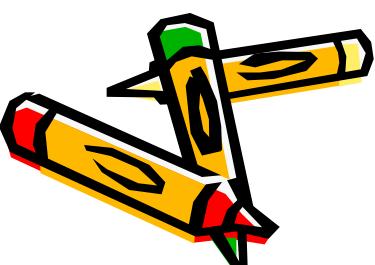
Simple Sentence

Compound Sentence

Complex Sentence

Compound-Complex Sentence

Compound-complex Sentence



# University Writing Center

Room A-309 N.C.B.  
(336)-334-7764

Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-12:00pm

\*We take appointments; walk-ins are welcome as well.



# Questions & Answers

