Sentence Types

Sentences are classified in two ways: according to their structure (simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex) and according to their purpose (declarative, imperative, interrogative, and exclamatory).

*Sentence Structures:*

Depending on the number and types of clauses they contain, sentences are classified as simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex.

Clauses come in two varieties: independent and subordinate. An independent clause contains a subject and predicate (part of a simple sentence; contains the verb), and it either stands alone or could stand alone. A surbordinate clause also contains a subject and predicate, but it functions within a sentence as an adjective, an adverb, or a noun; it cannot stand alone.

1. Simple Sentence: A simple sentence is one independent clause with no

subordinate clauses.

Ex: School is awesome.

2. Compound Sentence: A compound sentence is composed of two or more

independent clauses with no subordinate clauses. The independent clauses are usually joined with a comma and a coordinating conjunction (and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet) or with a semi-colon.

Ex: School is awesome, **but** some courses are quite hard*.*

3. Complex Sentence: A complex sentence is composed of one independent

clause with one or more subordinate clauses.

Ex: Although I complain, school is awesome*.*

4. Compound-Complex Sentence: A compound-complex sentence contains at

least two independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

Ex: Although I complain, school is awesome, and I enjoy every single day.

Exercise A: Identify the following sentences and underline the parts of the sentence.

1. Upon opening the box, Aquilina was shocked to see its contents. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Jay-Qwon was happy to be home after his long trip, but he was already planning his next adventure. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Tim-Othy answered, “Present” when the teacher called his name. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Although the bus trip was long and boring, the students were quite happy to be in Earlton, for none of them had ever seen a cow before. COMPOUND-COMPLEX
5. Jay-Quillin is scatterbrained. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Exercise B: Follow the instructions below to compose various sentences.

1. Compose a simple sentence which includes the word ‘’biscuit”.

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1. Compose a compound sentence which includes the words “celery” and ‘’confetti’’.

~~Ind. #1~~

~~Ind. #2~~

~~Coordinating Conjunction~~

~~celery~~ & ~~confetti~~

My mom wants me to buy some celery, but I ended up buying confetti.

1. Compose a complex sentence which includes the names of four people (one of whom being Kirby); in the sentence, these four people must be on their way somewhere.

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1. Compose a compound-complex sentence which includes the words “gummy bears”, “fools”, and “a can of soup”.

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