Simple, Compound, Complex Sentences

PREPARE

CONCEPT A simple sentence has one subject and one predicate. The subject is who or what a sentence is about. The predicate tells what the subject does or is. A sentence is complete when it has a subject and a predicate. A compound sentence has two independent clauses connected by a coordinating conjunction. A complex sentence has an independent clause and at least one dependent clause, and the clauses are often connected by a subordinating conjunction. Knowledge of the structure of sentences supports readers' abilities to interpret text accurately and write effectively.

VOCABULARY complex sentence, compound sentence, coordinating conjunction, simple sentence, subordinating conjunction

MATERIALS Lesson reproducibles

INSTRUCT

ANCHOR CHART ***[Display Reproducible page 1.]***

- Introduce the **Concept** of this lesson. *(See above.)*
- Review the definitions of **subject** and **predicate**. Read the definitions of each sentence type and their corresponding example sentences on the **Anchor Chart**.
  - **Subject:** The **simple subject** is the noun (or pronoun) that the sentence is about, and the **complete subject** may include an article, adjective, and noun.
  - **Predicate:** The **complete predicate** is the verb and all the words after it that tell what the subject does or is.
- Remind students that a sentence is complete when it has a **subject** and a **predicate**. If a sentence is missing one or both, it is incomplete.

PRACTICE

[Display Reproducible page 2, Simple Sentence Practice, Part A.]

- Read the directions with students.
- Review the example sentence. Remind students that the **complete subjec**t is *all* of the words that tell who or what a sentence is about and the **complete predicate** is the verb and *all* the words that follow it.
- After completing the activity, support students in locating the **simple subject** and **simple predicate** in each sentence. Refer to the **Anchor Chart** to review rules of capitalization and punctuation as needed.

[Display Reproducible page 2, Find the Predicate Adjective, Part B.]

- Read the directions with students.
- Prompt: *Which word connects ideas in the sentence? Which word is part of BOYFANS? What are the two independent clauses that the coordinating conjunction connects?*

[Display Reproducible page 3, Working on Complex Sentences, Part C.]

- Read the directions with students.
- Prompt: *What is this sentence about? What word connects the two clauses or ideas in the sentence? What is the subordinating conjunction? Which clause can stand alone, and which clause cannot?*

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[Display Reproducible page 3, Simple, Compound, or Complex? Part D.]

- Read the directions with students.
- Prompt: *What is this sentence about? Which type of conjunction do you see in this sentence? Which type of sentence uses this type of conjunction? Which type of sentence is this?*

★ *Note that an Answer Key is available for teacher reference below.*

ANSWER KEY FOR TEACHER REFERENCE

[Blank student copies are found on Reproducible pages 2 & 3.]

[Reproducible page 2, Simple Sentence Practice, Part A]

1. The hungry family baked cookies.
2. The son added chocolate chips.
3. The cookies turned golden brown.
4. Dad mixed the ingredients.
5. Mom turned on the oven.
6. They ate the delicious cookies.

1. Family baked.
2. Son added.
3. Cookies turned.
4. They mixed.
5. Mom turned.
6. They ate.

[Reproducible page 2, Compound Sentence Review, Part B]

1. The boys could go to a hockey game, or they could play card games.
2. Elyse drank three glasses of water, for she was very thirsty.
3. George does not eat meat, nor does he eat dairy.
4. Mike and Ronald walked to the beach, and then they walked to the ice cream truck.
5. Macy really wanted to win first place, but she finished second.
6. Cameron did not like to do homework, yet he completed his work every night.

[Reproducible page 3, Working on Complex Sentences, Part C]

1. SC They drove to the fair after the rain stopped.
2. SC It is dangerous to ride a bike if you are not wearing a helmet.
3. SC Although Stephen is tall, he still could not reach the top shelf.
4. SC Unless you get plenty of sleep, you will be tired in the morning.
5. Abby typed her vocabulary words on her computer SC rather SC than write the words on paper.
6. SC Because the power went out, Samantha's family could not watch television.

[Reproducible page 3, Simple, Compound, or Complex? Part D]

	Type of Conjunction	Type of Sentence
1. The dog wakes the neighbors when she barks.	coordinating (subordinating) none	❑ simple ❑ compound ☑ complex
2. Amanda likes frozen yogurt.	coordinating subordinating (none)	☑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
3. While he works, Adrian likes to listen to music.	coordinating (subordinating) none	❑ simple ❑ compound ☑ complex
4. The squirrel climbed up the tree, and he ran into his nest.	(coordinating) subordinating none	❑ simple ☑ compound ❑ complex
5. Brian tried to make a phone call, but his battery died.	(coordinating) subordinating none	❑ simple ☑ compound ❑ complex
6. Brandon jumped into the pool.	coordinating subordinating (none)	☑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
7. Though winter is over, it can still get very cold.	coordinating (subordinating) none	❑ simple ❑ compound ☑ complex

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ANCHOR CHART

Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences

A **simple sentence** has one subject and one predicate.

Subject — Complete Predicate

Fruit is a healthy snack.

A **compound sentence** has two independent clauses connected by a coordinating conjunction.

Independent Clause — Coordinating Conjunction — Independent Clause

Fruit is a healthy snack, so I eat mangos every day.

A **complex sentence** has an independent clause and at least one dependent clause. A subordinating conjunction usually joins the clauses.

Coordinating Conjunction — Independent Clause

When I am hungry, I choose fruit as a healthy snack.

Dependent Clause

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PRACTICE

Find the Subject and Predicate

A. *Read each sentence. Underline the complete subject, and circle the complete predicate.*

"The cookies" are all the words that tell what the sentence is about. "The cookies" is the complete subject.

"Tasted delicious" are all the words that tell what the subject is or does. So "tasted delicious" is the complete predicate.

The cookies tasted delicious.

1. The hungry family baked cookies.
2. The son added chocolate chips.
3. The cookies turned golden brown.
4. Dad mixed the ingredients.
5. Mom turned on the oven.
6. They ate the delicious cookies.

★ *Now, find the simple subject and the simple predicate in each sentence above, and write them below to make a complete sentence. Remember your SNEEQS!*

1. Family baked.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Compound Sentence Review

B. *Read the sentences, and circle the coordinating conjunctions. Then, underline each independent clause.*

1. The boys could go to a hockey game, or they could play card games.
2. Elyse drank three glasses of water, for she was very thirsty.
3. George does not eat meat, nor does he eat dairy.
4. Mike and Ronald walked to the beach, and then they walked to the ice cream truck.
5. Macy really wanted to win first place, but she finished second.
6. Cameron did not like to do homework, yet he completed his work every night.

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PRACTICE (CONTINUED)

Working on Complex Sentences

C. *Read the sentences, and complete each of the steps below.*

✓ *Write SC above the subordinating conjunction.*
✓ *Underline the dependent clause.*
✓ *Circle the independent clause.*

1. They drove to the fair after the rain stopped.
2. It is dangerous to ride a bike if you are not wearing a helmet.
3. Although Stephen is tall, he still could not reach the top shelf.
4. Unless you get plenty of sleep, you will be tired in the morning.
5. Abby typed her vocabulary words on her computer rather than write the words on paper.
6. Because the power went out, Samantha's family could not watch television.

Simple, Compound, or Complex?

D. *Read each sentence. Then, circle the type of conjunction it contains. Based on the type of conjunction, check off which type of sentence it is.*

	Type of Conjunction	Type of Sentence
1. The dog wakes the neighbors when she barks.	coordinating (subordinating) none	❑ simple ❑ compound ☑ complex
2. Amanda likes frozen yogurt.	coordinating subordinating none	❑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
3. While he works, Adrian likes to listen to music.	coordinating subordinating none	❑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
4. The squirrel climbed up the tree, and he ran into his nest.	coordinating subordinating none	❑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
5. Brian tried to make a phone call, but his battery died.	coordinating subordinating none	❑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
6. Brandon jumped into the pool.	coordinating subordinating none	❑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex
7. Though winter is over, it can still get very cold.	coordinating subordinating none	❑ simple ❑ compound ❑ complex

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