


Lesson 4

Simple and Compound Sentences

 **MS CCRS L.7.1b:** Choose among simple [and] compound . . . sentences to signal differing relationships among ideas.



Introduction

Sentences can be described according to the number and type of clauses in them. Remember that a **clause** is a group of words that contains both a subject and a predicate. An **independent clause** is a clause that can stand alone as its own sentence.

- A **simple sentence** contains one independent clause.

subject	predicate
[My great-grandmother Lucy]	[was born in Oklahoma in 1911.]

- A **compound sentence** is made up of two or more **independent clauses**. Those clauses are joined by a **coordinating conjunction** such as *and*, *or*, *so*, *but*, or *yet*, with a comma between the first clause and the conjunction.

independent clause 1	independent clause 2
Lucy's sister Rosene was born in 1913,	<i>and</i> her other sister, Rotha, was born in 1915.



Guided Practice

Write **simple** next to each simple sentence. Write **compound** next to each compound sentence, then circle the conjunction that joins the two clauses.

Hint

A simple sentence can have a compound subject or compound predicate.

Compound subject:

My brother and I loved Grandma Lucy.

Compound predicate:

She wrote music and played the piano.

Both sentences are simple sentences.

- 1 Lucy's mother and father were both schoolteachers. _____
- 2 They traveled all over Oklahoma, yet Lucy and her sisters never minded or complained. _____
- 3 As a young girl, Lucy was always one of the best students in her class. _____
- 4 Schools were segregated in Oklahoma in the early 1900s, so Lucy and her sisters attended schools for black children. _____
- 5 Lucy's family did not have much money but lived happily. _____



Independent Practice

For numbers 1–3, choose the sentence that answers each question.

- 1** Which of these is a simple sentence?
- A** Great-Grandma Lucy married Richmond Bell in 1937, and they moved to Arizona.
 - B** There was little work in Oklahoma, but in Arizona they got jobs picking cotton.
 - C** The work was difficult, yet Lucy was glad to have a job.
 - D** She and Richmond worked hard and saved their money.

- 2** Which of these is a compound sentence?
- A** Lucy and Richmond heard about work in California.
 - B** They could buy some land and a house in California's Central Valley.
 - C** Folks were struggling to survive in most places, but in California they had jobs.
 - D** Lucy and Richmond packed up, hopped on a train, and went west.

- 3** Which of these is a compound sentence?
- A** The couple found a house in the town of Dos Palos.
 - B** Dos Palos was a small community, but the land was good for farming.
 - C** Lucy and Richmond bought a cow, raised chickens, and grew vegetables.
 - D** Their first child was born in Dos Palos in the summer of 1945.

For numbers 4 and 5, choose the answer that correctly combines each pair of simple sentences into a compound sentence.

- 4** World War II began. Richmond joined the army.
- A** World War II began but Richmond joined the army.
 - B** World War II began, Richmond joined the army.
 - C** World War II began, and, Richmond joined the army.
 - D** World War II began, and Richmond joined the army.

- 5** With the men away, many jobs were open to women. Lucy became a librarian.
- A** With the men away, many jobs were open to women, so Lucy became a librarian.
 - B** With the men away, many jobs were open to women, Lucy became a librarian.
 - C** With the men away, many jobs were open to women, so, Lucy became a librarian.
 - D** With the men away, many jobs were open to women so, Lucy became a librarian.