

English 10 • Grammar Review • Sentence Types

Overview

STRUCTURALLY, SENTENCES IN English can be classified four different ways, though there are endless constructions of each. The classifications are based on the number of INDEPENDENT and DEPENDENT CLAUSES a sentence contains. A *clause* is a functional word group that contains a subject and a finite verb. An *independent clause* forms a complete sentence on its own, while a *dependent clause* needs another clause to make a complete sentence. *By learning these types, writers can add complexity and variety to their sentences!*

Examples

FILL IN THE BLANKS below as you review the four main different types of sentences.

Simple Sentence

A sentence with _____ independent clause and _____ dependent clauses.

Examples of Sentences

- ✦ *My aunt enjoyed taking the car trip with you.*
- ✦ *China's Han Dynasty marked an official recognition of Confucianism.*

Compound Sentence

A sentence with _____ independent clauses but _____ dependent clauses.

Examples

- ✦ *The clown frightened the little girl, and she ran off screaming.*
- ✦ *The Freedom Riders departed on May 4, 1961, and they were determined to travel through many southern states.*

Complex Sentence

A sentence with _____ independent clause and *at least* _____ dependent clause.

Examples

- ✦ *After Mary added up all the sales, she discovered that the lemonade stand was 32 cents short*
- ✦ *While there are many sources for news, Ron Burgundy and the Channel 4 News Team are the best in San Diego.*

Compound-Complex Sentence

A sentence with _____ independent clauses and *at least* _____ dependent clause.

Examples

- ✦ *Catch-22 is widely regarded as Joseph Heller's best novel, and because Heller served in World War II, which the novel satirizes, the zany but savage wit of the novel packs an extra punch.*
- ✦ *If the senator is re-elected this November, he'll serve another six years, but it won't be an easy contest to win.*