

76 sentences by design (or construction)

Activity

Sentences are constructed by purpose (declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and imperative sentences) as well as by design. The four types of sentences by design (or construction) are the *simple*, the *compound*, the *complex*, and the *compound-complex* sentence.

- ➔ A **simple sentence** consists of one independent (or main) clause (group of words).

My report should be longer.

Joanna and Anna brought their children home.

I cannot easily forget that ceremony.

- ➔ A **compound sentence** consists of two or more independent (or main) clauses that are closely related in meaning.

The sun broke through the clouds, and the children went outside to play. (*This is a good compound sentence because the clauses are related.*)

The sun broke through the clouds, and the television needs to be replaced. (*This is not a good compound sentence because the clauses are totally unrelated.*)

- ➔ A **complex sentence** has one main (or independent) clause and one (or more) subordinate (or dependent) clauses.

This is the same method that the doctors used last year. (*The subordinate clause is underlined.*)

If you can help us out, we would be very grateful. (*The subordinate clause is underlined.*)

- ➔ A **compound-complex sentence** has two (or more) main (or independent) clauses and one (or more) subordinate (or dependent) clauses.

[The public address announcer correctly pronounced the player's difficult name], and [the umpire signaled to the batter] who was standing by the dugout. (*The subordinate clause is underlined, and the two main clauses are in brackets.*)

77 simple and compound sentences

Activity

There are five simple (S) and five compound (C) sentences in these ten sentences. Write the appropriate letter on the line next to the sentence.

- ① _____ The exciting performer approached the microphone, and the crowd waited expectantly.
- ② _____ This operation will take only two hours.
- ③ _____ Walter signaled for the waiter, and the waiter walked over to the table.
- ④ _____ Tom, the repairman, entered the office, and his helper brought in the tools.
- ⑤ _____ Scratching his head, the musical conductor looked quite confused.
- ⑥ _____ The experienced stuntman is capable of performing many difficult maneuvers.
- ⑦ _____ Trey's mother-in-law would also like to go to the dance recital, but she already has an appointment that night.
- ⑧ _____ Our team's catcher, Jillian, is very agile, and she is also a dedicated captain and player.
- ⑨ _____ Priscilla watched the sunset from her bay window across the serene lake in Massachusetts.
- ⑩ _____ Can you believe that story?