Simple Sentences

Simple sentences, also known as independent clauses, can stand on their own. They must have these elements.

- Subject (the person/place/thing that does the action)
- Verb (the action)
- Ending punctuation (., ?, !)

These components aren’t needed for a sentence but can be added.

- Object (the verb is done to this)
- Adjective (describes a noun)
- Adverb (describes a verb)

4 Basic Sentence Forms in English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>sings?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>sings</td>
<td>songs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>talented!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>sings</td>
<td>beautifully.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subject + verb

Subject + verb + object

Subject + verb + adjective

Subject + verb + adverb
Compound Sentences

With a comma and a coordinating conjunction, two simple sentences (or independent clauses) can be combined into a compound sentence.

Sentence 1:
She studies hard.

Sentence 2:
She usually gets good grades.

Compound:
She studies hard, so she usually gets good grades.

Coordinating Conjunctions

For
And
Nor
But
Or
Yet
So

Tip: FANBOYS can be used to remember the coordinating conjunctions
Complex Sentences

Complex sentences contain both an independent clause and a dependent clause.

Independent clauses can come first followed by a dependent clause.

I grabbed my umbrella because it was raining.

Dependent clauses can go first, but a comma must separate it from the independent clause.

Because it was raining, I grabbed my umbrella.

Examples of Words That Start a Dependent Clause

Timing:
- After
- As
- Since
- Once
- Before
- As soon as

Contrast:
- Although
- Even though
- Whereas
- But

Condition:
- If
- In case
- Provided
- Unless
- Whether
- Because

*Dependent clauses are made by putting a subordinating conjunction (such as because, though, unless) before an independent clause. They can be used to define the timing of an event or to indicate contrast or condition (cause and effect). Dependent clauses are not complete sentences and cannot stand alone.*