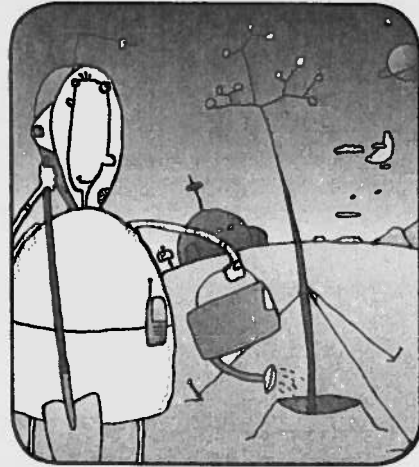


Types of Sentences

There are three basic types of sentences: simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. (See the examples below plus the ones on pages 515–517 in *Write Source* for this information.)



Examples

Simple Sentences:

I dug a huge hole.

(one subject; one verb)

Dad found and bought the perfect tree.

(one subject; compound verb)

Dad and I placed the tree in the hole.

(compound subject; one verb)

Compound Sentence:

I quickly filled in the hole, and Dad gave the tree a good watering.

(two independent clauses joined by a comma plus “and”)

Complex Sentence:

After we finished our work, we admired the new tree.

(one dependent clause, “after we finished our work,” plus one independent clause, “we admired the new tree”)

Directions

Identify each sentence below by writing either “simple,” “compound,” or “complex” on the blank space. The first sentence has been done for you.

compound

1. Forests once covered two-thirds of the earth, but now they cover only one-third of the earth.

_____ 2. We need forests to survive.

_____ 3. We breathe in oxygen and give off carbon dioxide.

_____ 4. Trees are just the opposite because they absorb carbon dioxide and give off oxygen.

- _____ 5. This is a great arrangement for humans, and we should all be grateful to the trees.
- _____ 6. Trees are cut down for houses, paper, fuel, lumber, and other uses.
- _____ 7. If enough trees are cut down, animal species begin to disappear.
- _____ 8. Trees hold the soil in place, and soil erosion is then reduced.
- _____ 9. When the wind blows, trees can serve as effective windbreaks.
- _____ 10. Forests offer valuable shelter for wildlife, and they provide innumerable recreation areas for people.
- _____ 11. Although there are about 20,000 kinds of trees, only 1,000 kinds grow in the United States.
- _____ 12. Each year the average American uses wood products equal to a 100-foot-tall tree.
- _____ 13. People throughout the world eat fruit, nuts, and other tree products.
- _____ 14. The bark of the cinchona tree contains quinine, which doctors use to treat malaria.
- _____ 15. All of us should plant a tree every year so that we can maintain a good supply of beautiful trees.

Next Step *What would your life be like without trees?* Write a paragraph in which you answer this question in detail. Afterward, identify your first four sentences as either "simple," "compound," or "complex." Share your results.

Sentence Fragments

A sentence must have a subject and a predicate, and it must also express a complete thought. A **fragment** occurs when a group of words is missing either a subject or a verb, or it doesn't express a complete thought. At first glance, a sentence fragment may look like an acceptable sentence because it starts with a capital letter and ends with a period (or other end punctuation mark). (See pages 504–505 in *Write Source*.)

Examples

Sentence Fragment:
In less than 10 hours.

Complete Sentence:
Jupiter rotates in less than 10 hours.
(A subject and a verb have been added.)

Sentence Fragment:
Has 58 moons.

Complete Sentence:
Jupiter has 58 moons.
(A subject has been added.)

Sentence Fragment:
Jupiter's diameter 11 times bigger than Earth's.

Complete Sentence:
Jupiter's diameter is 11 times bigger than Earth's. (A verb has been added.)

Directions

Write an "F" on the line before each group of words that is a sentence fragment and an "S" before each complete sentence. On your own paper, change the fragments into complete sentences.

- _____ 1. Jupiter is the largest planet.
- _____ 2. Is the fifth planet from the sun.
- _____ 3. Jupiter, made of gas and some rock, a huge, red globe.
- _____ 4. Jupiter so large that 1,300 Earths could fit inside it.
- _____ 5. Jupiter gives off more heat than it receives.
- _____ 6. Is about as big as it can be.
- _____ 7. This ball of hydrogen and helium, fifth brightest object in the sky.
- _____ 8. Has one main ring.
- _____ 9. Jupiter was named after the Roman king of the gods.

Directions

Write an "F" on the line before each group of words that is a sentence fragment and an "S" before each complete sentence. On your own paper, change the fragments into complete sentences.

- _____ 1. My favorite kind of TV show.
- _____ 2. I don't have time for television on school nights.
- _____ 3. Story settings in faraway places fascinate me.
- _____ 4. Starships, space missions, and alien races.
- _____ 5. The odd creature was one of the first aliens encountered by the space exploration team.
- _____ 6. Able to compute numbers and call up information.
- _____ 7. Keeps me on the edge of my seat with mystery and suspense.
- _____ 8. Isn't it interesting to think about life in the twenty-second century?
- _____ 9. Despite exploring the galaxy and expanding intelligence.
- _____ 10. A good sci-fi fantasy on TV helps me "space out."
- _____ 11. May be the way you feel, too.

Next Step Suppose a friend calls to tell you an amazing story, but because of noise, you pick up only fragments of the conversation. On your own paper, turn the fragments below into complete sentences that form a story. Compare stories made out of these fragments.

looked out my window . . .
heard strange noises and . . .

exploring we saw . . .
think it was . . .

Run-Ons 1

One form of run-on sentence is a **comma splice**. It occurs in writing when two simple sentences are incorrectly joined with a comma. A comma plus a connecting word, an end punctuation mark, or a semi-colon should be used between two simple sentences. Another form of **run-on sentence** occurs when two simple sentences are incorrectly joined without punctuation or a connecting word. (See page 506 in *Write Source* for examples.)



Directions

In the groups of words below, place a "CS" in front of each comma splice, an "RO" in front of each run-on sentence, and a "C" in front of each correct sentence. Correct the sentence errors. The first two have been done for you.

RO

1. Mars is the fourth planet from the sun. [!]It is the one you can see most clearly from Earth.

C

2. Mars is only one-half the size of Earth.

3. Mars shines with red and orange light, it is often called the Red Planet.

4. The Romans named Mars after their god of war its red color reminded them of blood and war.

5. Mars has seasons like those on Earth its days are also about 24 hours long.

6. Mars has two moons called Phobos and Deimos.

7. People used to believe that there were people on Mars, they made up stories about Martians.

- _____ 8. About a hundred years ago, scientists thought they saw water on Mars.
- _____ 9. In 1964, a spacecraft called *Mariner 4* went to Mars it took a lot of pictures.
- _____ 10. Scientists studied the pictures, they found no signs of life.
- _____ 11. The pictures did show craters like the ones on our moon.
- _____ 12. Someday, astronauts will go to Mars they will live on the planet for a while and check for signs of life.
- _____ 13. They will be able to see if there is any plant life, they can also check for any signs of water.
- _____ 14. Mars is very much colder than Earth, the astronauts will need food and heated suits.
- _____ 15. It will be great to learn more about Mars when astronauts finally do go there!

Next Step Let's say you want to know more about Mars and other planets in our solar system. Certainly you could refer to a book about the planets in your school library. You could also turn to an encyclopedia, your science textbook, or the Internet. Write down two facts you learn about the planet.

Compound Sentences 1

A compound sentence is made up of two or more simple sentences joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction, by punctuation, or by both. (See page 516 and 744.2 in *Write Source* for more information and a list of coordinating conjunctions.) The examples below show you how compound sentences can be formed.



Examples

The skeleton gives your body shape, but it also protects your vital organs.
(In this compound sentence, a comma and the coordinating conjunction "but" connect the two simple sentences.)

Your body framework is vital to life; learn as much as you can about it.
(In this compound sentence, a semicolon connects the two simple sentences.)

Directions

Turn each set of simple sentences into a compound sentence using a comma and a coordinating conjunction. For the first three sets of sentences, use the coordinating conjunction in parentheses. The first one has been done for you.

1. Your skeleton is invisible. It never lets you down. (**yet**)

Your skeleton is invisible, yet it never lets you down.

2. Without your skeleton, you would be unable to move. Your muscles would have nothing to attach themselves to. (**for**)
-
-

3. An adult person has 206 bones. A baby may have as many as 270. (**but**)
-
-

4. Gradually, some bones in a child's body fuse together. This results in an adult with fewer bones.

5. Your skull has 22 bones. Only the lower jaw is movable.

6. Your skull bones protect your brain and eyes. The bones in your rib cage protect your heart and lungs.

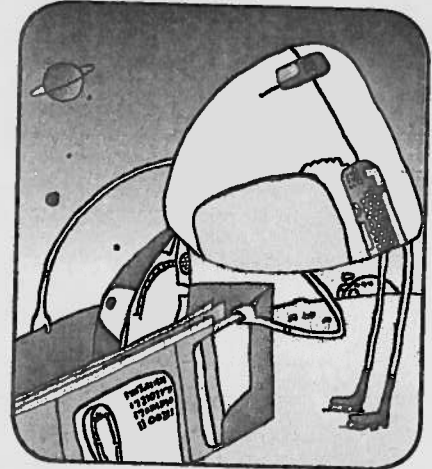
7. The longest bone in the body is the thighbone. It is also the strongest.

8. The tiniest bones in the body are the three bones in your middle ear. Without them, you couldn't hear.

Next Step List the following names of bones on your paper: *clavicle, sternum, phallanges, patella, tibia, and tarsals*. Then write the location of each type of bone next to its name. You may need to study a diagram of a human skeleton. Use this information to write three pairs of simple sentences. Exchange papers with a classmate and try combining the sentence pairs into compound sentences.

Complex Sentences 1

You can combine two simple sentences into a complex sentence using subordinating conjunctions such as *after*, *although*, *before*, and *unless*. Note how a subordinating conjunction is used to combine two simple ideas in the following examples. (See page 517 and 746.1 in *Write Source* for more examples.)



Examples

Simple Sentences:

Jon checked his wallet for money. He bought the best-selling thriller.

Combined into a Complex Sentence:

Jon checked his wallet for money **before** he bought the best-selling thriller.
(The subordinating conjunction "before" connects the two ideas.)

Simple Sentences:

Katrice studied her math. Amika read a short story in her literature book.

Combined into a Complex Sentence:

While Katrice studied her math, Amika read a short story in her literature book.
(The subordinating conjunction "while" connects the two ideas.)

Note: If the group of words introduced by a subordinating conjunction comes at the beginning of a sentence, a comma is placed after the introductory clause.

Directions

Combine the following sets of short sentences into complex sentences. Use the subordinating conjunctions given in parentheses for the first four sentences. The first one has been done for you.

1. The rope-and-wood bridge collapsed: Joe stood and watched. (as)

The rope-and-wood bridge collapsed as Joe stood and watched.

2. The first colonists looked to England for help. It had been their home. (because)
-
-

3. Maurice filled his bicycle tires with air. He pedaled to the south side of town. (after)

4. Jamell settled into his favorite fishing spot. The sun came up. (as)

5. Scotty stopped running. He heard the police officer shout.

6. Two feet of snow fell. Reva made it home.

7. You're all set to go to camp. You haven't registered properly.

8. Rosario checked on the two children. She fell asleep.

Next Step Write freely for 5 minutes about what happened yesterday afternoon between the time you were dismissed from your last class and the time you sat down to dinner. Put in as much detail as you can. Then exchange your writing with a classmate. Note two sets of sentences in each other's work that could be combined. When your paper is returned, try connecting the marked sets of sentences as you did above.