Writing Sentences - Simple, Complex, and Compound
Level: Middle School

To identify a sentence correctly you need to know the difference of a simple, complex and compound sentence.

- A **simple sentence**, also called and independent clause, contains a subject and a verb, and it expresses a complete thought.
- A **complex sentence**, has an independent clause joined by one or more dependent clauses. A complex sentence always has a subordinator such as because, since, after or though.
- A **compound sentence**, contains two independent clauses joined by a coordinator/conjunction. The coordinators/conjunctions are as follows: for, and, or, but, nor, yet, so.

Tell whether each sentence is simple, compound, or complex. If it is a compound sentence, circle the coordinator/conjunction. If it is a complex sentence, circle the subordinator.

1. She has a blue backpack. ____________________________

2. We went to the park and we had hot dogs on the grill. ______________________

3. The children finished their work and they played on the computer. ______________________

4. I tried to speak Spanish, and my friend tried to speak Spanish. ______________________

5. Erica likes to read her book in the morning. ______________________

6. She is reading her book because she is done doing her homework. ______________________

7. The teacher turned in the students homework after she noticed it was full or errors. ______________________