

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

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

- *A simple sentence, also called an independent clause, contains a subject and a predicate, 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 subordinating conjunction such as "because," "since," "after," or "though."*
- *A compound sentence contains two independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction. The coordinating conjunctions are as follows: for, and, or, but, nor, yet, so.*

Fill in the blanks beside each sentence with the correct sentence type: *simple, complex, or compound*. If it is a compound sentence, circle the coordinating conjunction. If it is a complex sentence, circle the subordinating conjunction.

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 gave back the student's homework after she noticed it was full of errors.

Writing Sentences: Simple, Complex, and Compound Answer Sheet

1. simple
2. compound (and)
3. compound (and)
4. compound (and)
5. simple
6. complex (because)
7. complex (after)