

# Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences

**Simple Sentences** have one independent clause consisting of one subject and one predicate, either of which may be compound.

Ex: Swimming is my favorite sport.

Ex: The table and chairs were delivered yesterday. (compound subject)

Ex: You will study after dinner and then write to Aunt Sally. (compound predicate)

**Compound Sentences** have two or more independent clauses. The clauses may be connected by a *coordinating conjunction* (*and, but, or*) preceded by a comma, or by a semicolon without a conjunction.

Ex: I like all sports, but swimming is my favorite.

Ex: The days are longer now; therefore, we enjoy more hours of sunlight.

**Complex Sentences** have an independent clause and one or more subordinate clauses. A comma sets off the subordinate clause when it comes at the beginning of the sentence.

Ex: Although I like every spot, I enjoy golf most of all.

Ex: I will see you before you leave.

**Directions: In the blank, write S for a simple sentence, Cd for a compound sentence, and Cx for a complex sentence.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. When she smiles, her eyes light up.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Peace Corps does remarkable work in foreign lands.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. A good magazine broadens your background; however, a trashy one limits your mind.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Since you started the job, why not finish it yourself?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. We look forward to your coming, and we shall be happy to see you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. During a dull, rainy day, I like to read a good story.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The trees shook and swayed as the storm lashed them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. You shall pay the bill, or else I will consult a lawyer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Popular songs have catchy tunes, but the old favorites did, too.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. It's an adventure story about a pirate and buried treasure.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Roberta and Donna printed the tickets and delivered them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Defeat need not bring discouragement; to the brave it brings a challenge.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Our class and theirs have sold but thirty tickets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. While I was at the game, I saw everyone but Tony and Jack.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Throwing down the bat, I turned and smiled at the cheering crowd.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. The Norwegians realized their danger very clearly, but, like their Viking ancestors, they  
faced the perils of the sea with high spirits.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. On the first of January, just before dark, the relief party arrived.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. I finished the last question just as the bell rang.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. At last the signal is given, the anchor is raised, and the ship glides slowly away from the  
pier.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Last night I visited Mr. Roberts, a friend of my father's.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. The doctor recognized the person who entered her office.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. Automobiles are very useful; occasionally, however, they need to be repaired.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. We should learn to govern ourselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. they came in quietly and seated themselves around the fire.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. As he approached this fearful tree, Ichabod began to whistle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. My brother and I went to town yesterday; my sister, on the other hand, stayed home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. It is necessary to study in school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. I admire Irma's love of animals, Joan's happy spirit, and Marjorie's loyalty to friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. Slowly and quietly the snow covered the field and hill.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. Some girls like hockey, but others prefer basketball, an exciting indoor game.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. After inspecting the plane, the pilot climbed into the cockpit and took off.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. Lacey Ann received many beautiful gifts for Christmas, and she also made many friends  
happy by her thoughtful remembrances.