

Daily Grammar Practice 5

Sentence Structure Review

Sentence Structures

The structure of a sentence refers to the kinds and number of clauses it contains.

- 4 types of Sentence Structures: 1) Simple, 2) Compound, 3) Complex, 4) Compound-Complex

Simple Sentence: contains 1 independent clause and no subordinate clauses.

e.g. The hairstylist gave Latrice a new look.

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Compound Sentences: contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

e.g. According to legend, Betsy Ross made our first flag, but little evidence supports this claim.

Do not confuse a compound sentence with a simple sentence that contains compound subjects and compound verbs.

e.g. Alberto and Jared increased their speed and passed the other runners.

A compound sentence may be joined by a semicolon or a semicolon, a conjunctive adverb, and a comma.

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Complex Sentence: contains 1 independent clause and at least 1 subordinate clause.

e.g. When I watch Beyonce's performances, I feel like dancing wildly.

Independent clauses can be interrupted by subordinate clauses.

e.g. All of the stars that we can see without a telescope are part of the Milky Way galaxy.

Identify the independent and dependent clause in this complex sentence:

Mr. Parham, the avid UGA fan, is not entirely sure how the football team that lost to Florida last year is going to do this year.

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Compound-Complex Sentences: contains two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

e.g. Yolanda began painting only two years ago, but already she has been asked to show one of her paintings at the exhibit that is scheduled for May.

Identify the two independent clauses and the subordinate clause in the following sentence:

I did not understand the novel, which was highly recommended by my friend; however, I am sure I would understand the novel if I read it again.

Sentence Structures

Practice: Identify the sentence structures used for each of the following sentences below. Also underline the independent clauses found, circle the dependent clauses found, and scratch through the phrases in each sentence.

1. Christina, the foreign exchange student, left on time, but her bus was late.
1. In 1967, Thurgood Marshall became the first African American on the U.S. Supreme Court.
1. Do you know who wrote this note and left it on my desk?