**Compound, Complex, and Compound Complex Sentences**

**Compound Sentences**

A compound sentence has two or more main clauses joined by **the coordinating conjunctions**:

For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So (FANBOYS)

Compound Sentence

Main clause Main clause

I like eating but I prefer sleeping

**Examples:**

* It was getting dark, and we were not near the cabin.
* I really need to go to work, but I am too sick to drive.
* Everyone was busy, so I went to the movie alone.

We usually leave out the same subject, the same subject+verb or the same subject+auxiliary from later clauses in a compound sentence.

e.g. - They played well, but they lost.

We can emphasize the relationship between two clauses in compound sentences by using different combinations of conjunctions. They can express an addition, an alternative, a combination or a combination of negatives.

e.g. -They not only clean houses, but also do repairs, painting and other jobs.

-You can both turn the T.V on and change channels with the remote control.

-You can either go with us or stay here alone.

-He neither speaks English nor understands it.

**Complex Sentences**

Complex sentences involve combining two sentences of unequal value: one sentence is dependent on the other to complete its full meaning. Unlike an independent clause, a dependent clause starts with a dependent word that leaves the sentence hanging. The dependent word is known as a **subordinating conjunction**. The common subordinating conjunctions are:

**Although, though, after, as, because, before, even though, how, if, as if, since, so that, unless, until, what, whatever, when, whenever, whether, while, who, whose.**

e.g. -*Simple sentence:*

Tom is a boy. He is eight-years old. He goes to school in Philadelphia.

e.g. -*Complex sentence:*

Tom is an eight-year old boy who goes to school in Philadelphia.

Complex Sentence

Main clause

S V O A

Subordinate clause

S V O

Mary sends the letter when she buys the stamps

There are two methods for creating complex sentences. Both of these methods use subordinating conjunctions, one puts the independent clause first, the other puts the dependent clause first.

* Independent clause + subordinating conjunction + dependent clause.

e.g. I wanted to proofread my essay before showing it to my teacher.

* Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause + independent clause.

e.g. Although I am nervous about writing, I think I will do just fine.

Here are some simple rules to remember when combining simple sentences into complex sentences:

-Do not repeat words.

-Change words if necessary.

-Add words to connect ideas.

**Compound-Complex Sentences**

There are other complicated sentences where both coordination and subordination occur together to produce a compound-complex sentence. Compound-complex sentences are formed with three or more clauses joined by both coordinating and subordinating conjunctions.

e.g. -I eat when the soup boils and after I clean my teeth.

Even though she was tired, Jane knew she had to finish the race and she ran to meet her team.

Compound-Complex Sentence

Main clause

S V A

Subordinate clause Subordinate clause

S V S V O

I eat when the soup boils and after I clean my teeth