

English Home Language, Grade 9, Sentences

What Are the Different Types of Sentences?

Sentences are divided into four categories: simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, and compound-complex sentences.

Simple Sentences

Definition	A simple sentence contains one independent clause.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Johnny rode his bike to school.• Who is your best friend?• She ate her lunch, took a walk, and went back to work.

Compound Sentences

Definition	A compound sentence contains two independent clauses. A coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so) often links the two independent clauses and is preceded by a comma.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• She wanted to go on vacation, so she saved up her money.• I like apples, but my sister loves bananas.• Tim loves to read, and he also loves to hike.

Complex Sentences

Definition	A complex sentence contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. A complex sentence will include at least one subordinating conjunction .
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• She went to class even though she was sick.• As John was arriving to work, he realized he forgot his lunch.• While I enjoy classical music, I prefer rock and roll because I play the drums.

Compound-Complex Sentences

Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A compound-complex sentence combines complex sentence and compound sentence forms. A compound-complex sentence contains one or more independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although she felt guilty for missing her friend's birthday, she took her out to dinner the next day, and they had a great time.• I try to eat healthy food, but because fast food is so convenient, I cannot maintain a healthy diet.• If he got the job, he would have to commute 50 miles to work, so he decided the job was not worth it.