Name: Date: Score: / 8

Simple, Compound, Complex: Learn and Practice

Sort sentences by how their clauses fit

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Sentence Structures

- A simple sentence has one independent clause.
- A compound sentence joins two independent clauses, and a complex sentence adds a dependent clause.
- A compound complex sentence has two independent clauses and at least one dependent clause.
- When it rained, we stayed in, and we baked bread. This is compound complex.

1 What type of sentence is: Because it was cold, we wore mittens.

A. complex B. compound complex C. simple D. compound

2 What type of sentence is: The cat slept on the rug.

A. simple B. complex C. compound complex D. compound

3 What type of sentence is: Maria and Jon swam and played on the beach.

A. compound B. complex C. simple D. compound complex

4 How many independent clauses does a simple sentence have?

A. three B. none C. one D. two

5 Which sentence is compound?

A. The bus that was late arrived.

B. We walked because the bus was late.

C. The bus was late, so we walked.

D. Walking to school was fun.

6 What type of sentence is: I like soup, and Sam likes salad.

A. compound complex B. simple C. compound D. complex

7 Which word can join two independent clauses in a compound sentence?

A. when B. but C. because D. although

8 Which sentence is complex?

A. We cheered loudly at the game.

B. We cheered when the team scored.

C. We cheered, and the team scored.

D. The team scored, so we cheered.

✏️ Explain it! In your own words, write the rule for simple, compound, complex and one example.

ANSWER KEY

Simple, Compound, Complex: Learn and Practice (answers)

Sort sentences by how their clauses fit

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1. What type of sentence is: Because it was cold, we wore mittens.

   A. complex B. compound complex C. simple D. compound

   Because it was cold is a dependent clause joined to one independent clause.

2. What type of sentence is: The cat slept on the rug.

   A. simple B. complex C. compound complex D. compound

   It has one subject and verb pair and nothing else, so it is simple.

3. What type of sentence is: Maria and Jon swam and played on the beach.

   A. compound B. complex **C. simple** D. compound complex

   It has a compound subject and verb, but only one clause, so it is still simple.

4. How many independent clauses does a simple sentence have?

   A. three B. none **C. one** D. two

   A simple sentence has exactly one independent clause.

5. Which sentence is compound?

   A. The bus that was late arrived.

   B. We walked because the bus was late.

   C. The bus was late, so we walked.

   D. Walking to school was fun.

   Two independent clauses are joined with a comma and so.

6. What type of sentence is: I like soup, and Sam likes salad.

   A. compound complex B. simple **C. compound** D. complex

   Two independent clauses are joined by and, which makes it compound.

7. Which word can join two independent clauses in a compound sentence?

   A. when **B. but** C. because D. although

   But is a coordinating conjunction. The others start dependent clauses.

8. Which sentence is complex?

   A. We cheered loudly at the game.

   B. We cheered when the team scored.

   C. We cheered, and the team scored.

   D. The team scored, so we cheered.

   When the team scored is a dependent clause, which makes the sentence complex.