

# Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 12



## Quick Review

A SIMPLE sentence has one complete idea (independent clause). A COMPOUND sentence has TWO complete ideas joined by *and*, *but*, *or*, *so*. A COMPLEX sentence has one complete idea AND one dependent idea joined by a subordinating conjunction (*because*, *when*, *if*, *although*).

## PRACTICE

Pick or write the BEST answer.

- Which is a SIMPLE sentence?
  - I read a book, and my sister did her homework.
  - I read a book.
  - Because it was raining, we stayed inside.
  - I read a book while my sister did homework.
- Which is a COMPOUND sentence?
  - The dog barked.
  - The dog barked, and the cat ran away.
  - When the dog barked, the cat ran away.
  - The barking dog.
- Which is a COMPLEX sentence?
  - She likes art, but she also likes science.
  - Because she likes art, she takes painting classes.
  - She likes art.
  - Art and science.
- Which word makes a COMPOUND sentence?
  - because
  - and
  - when
  - if



5. Which word makes a COMPLEX sentence?
- A. and
  - B. or
  - C. but
  - D. because
6. Which is a fragment (NOT a complete sentence)?
- A. The cat slept on the rug.
  - B. Running through the park.
  - C. She likes pizza.
  - D. Sam read a book.
7. Combine these into a COMPOUND sentence:  
*I wanted ice cream. The store was closed.*
- A. I wanted ice cream because the store was closed.
  - B. I wanted ice cream, but the store was closed.
  - C. When I wanted ice cream the store was closed.
  - D. I wanted ice cream the store was closed.
8. Combine these into a COMPLEX sentence:  
*It was cold. We wore jackets.*
- A. It was cold and we wore jackets.
  - B. Because it was cold, we wore jackets.
  - C. It was cold; we wore jackets.
  - D. It was cold but we wore jackets.
9. Write a SIMPLE sentence about your favorite food: \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Write a COMPOUND sentence using **and**: \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Write a COMPLEX sentence using **because**: \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Which sentence is COMPLEX?
- A. Tom and Jerry played outside.
  - B. Tom played outside, and Jerry stayed in.
  - C. Although Tom was tired, he played outside.
  - D. Tom played outside; Jerry stayed in.



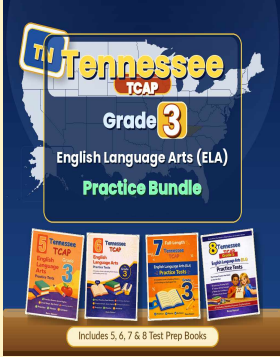
## Answer Keys

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| Explanations |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>1. B</b>  | B is one complete idea. The others combine ideas.   |
| <b>2. B</b>  | Two complete ideas joined by “and.” A is simple; C is complex; D is a fragment.   |
| <b>3. B</b>  | “Because...” = dependent clause + main clause = complex.  |
| <b>4. B</b>  | And is a coordinating conjunction → compound. The others are subordinating → complex.                                     |
| <b>5. D</b>  | Because joins a dependent clause → complex. The others are coordinating → compound.                                       |
| <b>6. B</b>  | B is missing a subject. The others are complete simple sentences.   |
| <b>7. B</b>  | Compound joins two complete ideas with a comma + coordinating conjunction. A is complex; C is complex; D is a run-on.     |
| <b>8. B</b>  | Because = subordinating → complex sentence.   |
| <b>9.</b>    | <b>Answer:</b> Example: Pizza is my favorite food.<br>Any one complete idea with a subject and verb.                      |
| <b>10.</b>   | <b>Answer:</b> Example: I like pizza, and my brother likes tacos.<br>Any two complete ideas joined by and.                |
| <b>11.</b>   | <b>Answer:</b> Example: I love pizza because it has cheese on top.<br>Any sentence with a main clause + because + reason. |
| <b>12. C</b> | Although = subordinating → complex. A and B are simple/compound; D is compound with semicolon.                            |



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