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.

1. Which is a SIMPLE sentence?

A. I read a book, and my sister did her homework.

B. I read a book.

C. Because it was raining, we stayed inside.

D. I read a book while my sister did homework.

2. Which is a COMPOUND sentence?

A. The dog barked.

B. The dog barked, and the cat ran away.

C. When the dog barked, the cat ran away.

D. The barking dog.

3. Which is a COMPLEX sentence?

A. She likes art, but she also likes science.

B. Because she likes art, she takes painting classes.

C. She likes art.

D. Art and science.

4. Which word makes a COMPOUND sentence?

A. because

B. and

C. when

D. 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

1	A	**B**	C	D	7	A	**B**	C	D
2	A	**B**	C	D	8	A	**B**	C	D
3	A	**B**	C	D	9	See below			
4	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			
5	A	B	C	**D**	11	See below			
6	A	**B**	C	D	12	A	B	**C**	D

Explanations

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

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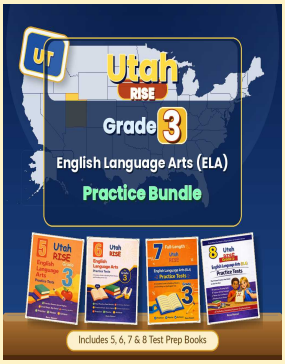

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