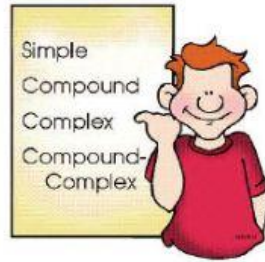


## LECTURE 2 - SENTENCES



### *What is a Sentence?*

A sentence is a group of words containing **at least a subject and a verb**. Every sentence must have at least one independent clause, **express a complete idea**, begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop.

### *Four Types of Sentences*

Basically, sentences are categorized into FOUR types as follows: **simple, compound, complex and compound-complex** sentences.

#### **1. Simple Sentences**

A simple sentence consists of one subject-verb combination. Therefore, a simple sentence is also an independent clause.

*E.g. I recently bought a tie for my father.*

**Note:** - A simple sentence can have **more than one** subject and more than one verb.

1 subject - 1 verb: *Maroon 5 performed dozens of songs.*

2 subjects - 1 verb: *Maroon 5 and the Rolling Stones performed dozens of songs.*

1 subject - 2 verbs: *Maroon 5 performed and recorded dozens of songs.*

2 subjects – 2 verbs: *Maroon 5 and the Rolling Stones performed and recorded dozens of songs.*

- Sentences like “*Save your water.*” are also complete simple sentences. The subject “you” is not included but understood.

#### **Exercise 1:**

1. Write a simple sentence with **one subject**.

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2. Write a simple sentence with **two subjects**.

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3. Write a simple sentence with **two subjects**.

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4. Write a simple sentence with **two verbs**.

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## 2. Compound Sentences

A compound sentence has **two or more independent clauses/ simple sentences** joined together. However, it does not contain any dependent clauses.

*Simple sentence 1:* It rained very hard last night.

*Simple sentence 2:* We decided to cancel our travel plans.

*Compound sentence:* It rained very hard last night, so we decided to cancel our travel plans.

There are **THREE WAYS** of joining independent clauses together to make a compound sentence.

### *Way 1: Using Coordinating Conjunctions/ Coordinators*

SEVEN Coordinating conjunctions or coordinators are *for, and, nor, but, or, yet* and *so*. You can remember them by the phrase **FANBOYS**.

F = for    A = and    N = nor    B = but    O = or    Y = yet    S = so

*Note:* Remember there is a comma (,) before the coordinators.

**Structure:** Independent clause, **coordinator** + independent clause.

| Coordinators     | Meaning                                       | Examples                                                                                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>for</b>       | Reasons                                       | Thousands of companies have been declared bankrupt, <b>for</b> the economic crisis has become more severe. |
| <b>and</b>       | Additional information                        | Social networks are growing, <b>and</b> many businessmen are investing in them.                            |
| <b>nor</b>       | Addition of negative                          | Many students do not study hard, <b>nor</b> do they want to graduate.                                      |
| <b>but , yet</b> | Different information                         | Internet technology is growing, <b>but</b> some small companies cannot afford to invest in it.             |
|                  | Unexpected, different, surprising information | Internet technology is growing, <b>yet</b> some small companies cannot afford to invest in it.             |
| <b>or</b>        | Options                                       | Many companies are investing in new technologies, <b>or</b> they are planning to invest in them.           |

|           |                  |                                                                                |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>so</b> | Results/ reasons | Social networks are growing, <b>so</b> many businessmen are investing in them. |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Way 2: Using Conjunctive Adverbs

The independent clauses of a compound sentence can also be joined together by a conjunctive adverb.

*Note:* Remember there is **a semicolon (;)** after the first independent clause of the compound sentence and **a comma (,)** after the conjunctive adverb.

**Structure:** Independent clause; **conjunctive adverb**, independent clause.

| Conjunctive Adverbs | Meaning                 | Examples                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| furthermore         | Additional information  | This chair is good; <b>furthermore</b> , it is cheap.                                                                                    |
| besides             |                         | Thousands of companies were declared bankrupt; <b>besides</b> , thousands of people were fired.                                          |
| moreover            |                         | The whole report is badly written; <b>moreover</b> , it is not grammatically correct.                                                    |
| also                |                         | She is a photographer; <b>also</b> , she is a novelist.                                                                                  |
| however             | Opposite information    | Thousands of companies have been declared bankrupt; <b>however</b> , the government is still optimistic about the growth of the economy. |
| nevertheless        |                         | It is a difficult race; <b>nevertheless</b> , about 1,000 runners participate in it every year.                                          |
| otherwise           | Choices/ or else        | I hope the weather will be better; <b>otherwise</b> , we will have to cancel the picnic.                                                 |
| therefore           | Results<br>Consequences | This is a poorly-written paper; <b>therefore</b> , I strongly recommend that you review it again.                                        |
| thus                |                         | Fewer pupils will attend the schools; <b>thus</b> , we will need fewer teachers.                                                         |
| hence               |                         | His mother was Italian; <b>hence</b> , he was named Luca.                                                                                |
| consequently        |                         | I spent most of my money in the first week; <b>consequently</b> , I had very little to eat by the end of the holiday.                    |

## Way 3: Using semicolons (;)

The independent clauses of a compound sentence can also be joined together by a semicolon (;)

**Structure:** Independent clause; independent clause.

*E.g. My father works in a bank; my mother works in a hospital.*

*Note:* This type of sentence is formed when the two independent clauses are **closely related**. If they are not closely-related, they should be written as 2 separate simple sentences.

**Exercise 2:** Use the correct words in the box to fill in the blanks.

|         |           |           |         |    |
|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|----|
| however | and       | but       | or      | so |
|         | therefore | otherwise | besides |    |

1. John wanted to go to college,  his family had very little money.
2. I want to study abroad; , I have to take the IELTS test.
3. I don't trust him; , we still have to work together.
4. To get from Hanoi to HoChiMinh City, you can fly,  you can ride on a train.
5. Students must take the final test; , they will fail the course.
6. Grammar is difficult; , it is confusing.
7. He bought a bottle of wine,  we drank it together.
8. Mary felt cold,  she put on a coat.

**Exercise 3:**

- ✓ Form Compound sentences by adding a second independent clause to each independent clause below.
- ✓ Call out another Conjunctive Adverb that can be used to substitute for each coordinator in the sentences.

1. Camels can thrive in the desert, for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Mr. Jackson can fly an airplane, and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Ms. Kang cannot cook, nor \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. I enjoy studying mathematics, but \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. To lose weight people can eat properly, or \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



### 3. Complex Sentences

A complex sentence contains one independent clause (or main clause) and one (or more) dependent clause(s). The more important idea is placed in the independent clause while the less important one is in the dependent clause which cannot stand alone. If there are only dependent clauses in a sentence, the sentence is incomplete.

E.g. a. Joanna is talking to a man **who is tall and handsome.**

**Independent clause**

**Dependent clause**

b. **When she was young,** she tried many dangerous sports.

**Dependent clause**

**Independent Clause**

c. **After she ate dinner,** she called her friend.

**Dependent clause**

**Independent Clause**

#### Exercise 4:

Write the following sentences into one complex sentence, using the subordinating conjunction .

1. The price of gasoline went up forty cents a gallon.

The Elliot's decided to cancel their vacation plans of driving to Florida. (since)

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2. Americans believe in the right to bear arms.

Many Americans have handguns and rifles in their homes. (because)

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3. Many women continue to drink during pregnancy

Research has shown that drinking alcohol during pregnancy could be detrimental to a baby's health. (although)

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4. Southern California has wonderful beaches for surfing.

Tom and his wife go there every chance they get. (which)

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