

## Simple Sentences

**7a.** A *simple sentence* contains one independent clause and no subordinate clauses.

A simple sentence may have a compound subject, a compound verb, or both.

**EXAMPLES** **Thelma sells** automobiles.

**Thelma and Leo buy and sell** automobiles.

HW if not finished

**EXERCISE** Circle each subject and underline each verb in the following sentences.

**Example 1.** Claudia smiled sweetly and motioned the guests inside.

1. Carmen and her aunt skated at the pond after school.
2. Iris and Phil took a train to Chicago.
3. The pattern of every snowflake is unique.
4. During the Renaissance, Italian women shaved the front part of their heads and kept the rest of their hair long.
5. Federico and Garth rowed over to the island last summer.
6. Emily Dickinson published very few poems in her lifetime.
7. After the harvest, the workers and their families have a dance and play music in the barn.
8. *Cats* takes place in a junkyard.
9. The well-known musical is based on T. S. Eliot's poems.
10. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune have rings.
11. Christina played the guitar and sang songs from Chile.
12. Leaves and branches lay beneath the trees in our front yard and blocked the driveway.
13. Jill and Erica campaigned energetically and raised the needed funds.
14. My favorite snack is a sandwich and milk.
15. Jordan should wash the dishes and put them away.
16. Lupe raked the leaves in the backyard.
17. We congratulated Rosa on her achievement.
18. I read the draft of the paper and did a thorough revision.
19. This month's school newspaper includes a list of new books in the library.
20. Where will Tim and Eric ride their bicycles this weekend?

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# Compound Sentences

**7b.** A *compound sentence* contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

The independent clauses of a compound sentence are usually joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (*and, but, for, nor, or, so, or yet*). Independent clauses also may be joined by a semicolon.

EXAMPLES <sup>S</sup> Mark Twain wrote fiction. <sup>V</sup> **and** <sup>S</sup> T.S. Eliot wrote poetry. <sup>V</sup>

<sup>S</sup> My brother does the dishes and takes out the trash. <sup>V</sup> <sup>S</sup> my chores include vacuuming and dusting. <sup>V</sup>

**EXERCISE A** Each of the following compound sentences contains two independent clauses joined by a comma and a conjunction. Underline each subject once and each verb twice. Then, circle the conjunction.

**Example 1.** Kiyo likes the beach, and she often goes there with her brothers.

1. The ice-covered sidewalk was slippery, and several people fell down.
2. Some students ate in the cafeteria, but others went outside in the sunshine.
3. The talk show host was silly, but his show had a large audience.
4. The waves were enormous, yet the expert surfer rescued his new surfboard.
5. Mr. Kumamoto has uncovered some great fossils, for he is an experienced fossil hunter.

**EXERCISE B** Rewrite each of the following pairs of simple sentences as one compound sentence. Use the coordinating conjunction in parentheses, and write your sentences above the original sentences. Be sure to add the correct punctuation where necessary.

*Ants are small, but they are powerful.*  
**Example 1.** Ants are small. They are powerful. (*but*)

6. We can go to a movie. We can watch a videotape at home. (*or*)
7. Angel wrote a poem about his girlfriend. He did not show it to her. (*but*)
8. Dark clouds gathered above the baseball field. Rain fell steadily. (*and*)
9. The bears stole all our food. We left the campground early. (*so*)
10. Outside, a storm howled. We were warm inside the igloo. (*yet*)
11. Aretha has never taken a drawing class. She can sketch almost anything. (*but*)
12. They wanted to surprise her. They gave her a gift the day before her birthday. (*so*)
13. Joe can wait for us at the entrance. He can go in and find us a seat. (*or*)
14. Suddenly, Sparky ran to the window. We wondered what he saw. (*and*)
15. Last night the house felt chilly. I drank hot tea and curled up with a book. (*so*)

## Simple or Compound?

**7a.** A *simple sentence* contains one independent clause and no subordinate clauses.

**7b.** A *compound sentence* contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.


The independent clauses of a compound sentence are often joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction, but they also may be joined by a semicolon.

**SIMPLE SENTENCE:** I went outside and looked at the sky.

**COMPOUND SENTENCES:** The sky looked threatening, **so** I expected a storm.

The sky looked threatening; I expected a storm.

**EXERCISE A** For each of the following sentences, underline each subject once and each verb twice. Then, identify the sentence by writing *S* for *simple sentence* or *CD* for *compound sentence* on the line provided.

**Example**  1. Geronimo was an Apache; he struggled to preserve the Apache way of life.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Geronimo was born in No-doyohn Canyon, Mexico.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Geronimo defended his homeland against colonization by Mexicans and North Americans.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Mexican bounty hunters killed his mother, his wife, and his children in 1858.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Geronimo wanted revenge, so he gathered a band of men.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. He led the band of Apaches in raids against Mexican settlements.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The Mexicans called him Geronimo; that name in English is Jerome.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The Apaches used his name as their battle cry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. In 1874, U.S. authorities forcibly moved about four thousand Apaches to a reservation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Geronimo led these Apaches in attacks on U.S. settlements and soldiers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The United States sent five thousand soldiers after Geronimo, but the small group of Apaches did not surrender for more than four months.

**EXERCISE B** For each of the following sentences, underline each subject once and each verb twice. Then, identify the sentence by writing *S* for *simple sentence* or *CD* for *compound sentence* above the item number.

**Example**  [1] The army finally tracked Geronimo to his camp in the mountains.

- [11] He was imprisoned in Florida and later in Oklahoma; he never returned to Arizona and to his Apache life. [12] He told his story to S. M. Barrett in 1905–1906, and Barrett wrote a book about it. [13] Geronimo would not permit a stenographer at the interviews, so Barrett took notes. [14] The name of this book is *Geronimo: His Own Story*. [15] Geronimo died in 1909; he was a courageous man to the end.

## Commas B

- 14h.** Use a comma before *and, but, for, nor, or, so, or yet* when it joins independent clauses in a compound sentence.

**EXAMPLES** Joshua's uncle drove us to the skating rink, and he decided to skate with us.  
Ariel took her umbrella, for it looked like rain.

**EXERCISE A** Underline the conjunction in the sentences that follow. Then, add commas where necessary. If a sentence needs no comma, write *C* to the left of the item number.

**Example 1.** Some people enjoy long car trips, but others get restless in the car.

1. Our family planned a driving trip so we needed maps.
2. Mom looked carefully but couldn't find Elgin.
3. She put on glasses for the print was tiny.
4. The scenery was great yet my sister was restless.
5. Is that normal or is something wrong with the car's engine?
6. Carla noticed I'd forgotten my pencil so she lent me one of hers.
7. My cousin Cary writes music and plays in a band.
8. He invited us to listen but we had no time.
9. Who woke us up and why must we leave early?
10. Yoko is not a good traveler nor am I.

**EXERCISE B** Combine two sentences to make a compound sentence. Include commas as needed.

**Example 1.** Rain was pouring down. The football game continued. Rain was pouring down, yet the football game continued.

11. I brought a new camera. It broke. \_\_\_\_\_
12. It rained on Sunday. We were disappointed. \_\_\_\_\_
13. The mountains were snowy. The weather didn't seem very cold. \_\_\_\_\_
14. I can borrow skis. Maybe I can rent some. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Mariana spotted a fire tower. Dad saw a deer. \_\_\_\_\_