

A Simple Sentence...

One complete thought.

Has a subject (a noun) and a doing word (a verb).

Is an independent clause.

Two (or more) simple sentences joined together using a conjunction (and, but, for, so, nor, because, yet).

A Compound Sentence...

An independent clause, coupled with a dependent clause.

Clauses joined with the following conjunctions: while, after, though, when, whereas, wherever, as, unless, since, although, if, until, where.

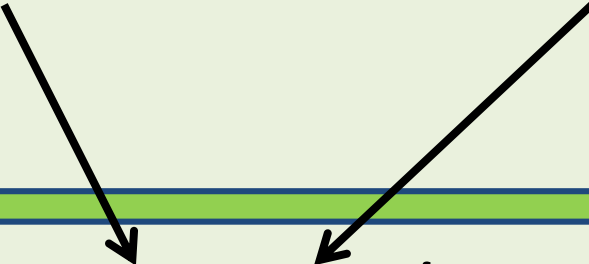
A Complex Sentence...

A Simple Sentence...

...is one complete thought.

...is an **independent** clause.

...has a subject (noun) and a doing word (verb).



The man sat down.

A Compound Sentence...

...is two (or more) simple sentences joined together by a conjunction (for, and, nor, but, because, or, yet, so).

...contains two (or more) **independent** clauses.

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The man sat down and it started to rain.

A Complex Sentence...

...contains a conjunction (while, after, though, when, whereas, wherever, as, unless, since, although, if, until, where, even though).

...has a dependent clause & an independent clause.

When the man sat down, it started to rain.

The independent clause can also begin the sentence...

It started to rain when the main sat down.