

# Types of Sentence Structure

## (Format of the Sentence)

Simple	Compound	Complex	Compound-complex
<p>A simple sentence is one independent clause.</p> <p>An independent clause must have a subject and verb (predicate).</p> <p>An independent clause must make sense by itself.</p>	<p>A compound sentence is two or more independent clauses.</p> <p>A compound sentence is usually joined by ending the first independent clause with a comma followed by a coordinating conjunction in front of the last independent clause.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><i>Sometimes, writers will use a semicolon instead of a comma and coordinating conjunction to join two independent clauses that form the compound sentence.</i></p>	<p>A complex sentence contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.</p> <p>A dependent clause begins with a subordinating conjunction and does not make sense by itself.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><i>A dependent clause has to have an independent clause with it; otherwise, it is considered a <b>fragment</b>.</i></p>	<p>A compound-complex sentence is a combination of a compound sentence and a complex sentence.</p> <p>A compound-complex sentence will include at least one dependent clause and at least two independent clauses.</p> <p>When trying to determine if a sentence is compound-complex, look for a coordinating conjunction <i>and</i> a subordinating conjunction.</p>