





Course N-07

7.Sentence style

Q1 What is a sentence?

a group of words that does not make a complete sense 	a group of words longer than a phrase 
a group of words that has a verb 	a group of words that makes a complete sense 

7.1. The elements of a sentence are the essential components that make up a **grammatical** English sentence.

Consider the following stretches of language. Are they sentences?

e.g. are playing football in the garden
 the boys





What's missing in each one?

→ to make a sentence, we need two constituents: the subject + the predicate (= what is said about the subject, i.e. all the words in a sentence except the subject).

The Sentence elements are:

- [S] the subject is easily identifiable – by asking *who?* – he, children, my mother, someone
- [V] a verb is the most important element of a sentence - verb - are playing
- [O] - object - football
- [A] – adverbial: is a group of words that performs the function of an adverb eg: in the garden (=time, place, manner)
- [C] – complement: is a word that completes the sense of a sentence, is used after a copular verb e.g. He is *clever*.

'He is coming soon ' is an example of a sentence structure with

SVA 	SVC 
SVO 	SV 

- When a sentence does not have these elements, it is called a *fragment*.

Nouns and pronouns are used in sentences in a variety of ways:

1. Subjects - **karima** enjoys working in the ABLE Program.
2. Objects of Prepositions - Karima enjoys working in the ABLE **Program**.
3. Direct Objects –In the sentence, 'She gave her a present' -the **direct** is **present**
4. Indirect Objects –In the sentence, 'She gave her a present' the indirect object is- **her**
5. Predicate Nominatives – In one grandmother’s opinion, Rose is the cutest **baby** in the whole, wide world!
6. Direct Address – **Rhida**, it’s time to eat lunch.

7.2. Types of Sentences

What Are the Different Types of Sentences?

Sentences are divided into four categories: simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, and compound-complex sentences.

Simple Sentences

Definition	<p>A simple sentence contains one independent clause.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A simple sentence contains a subject and verb and expresses one complete thought. 2. A simple sentence can stand on its own. 3. A simple sentence is also called an independent clause. 4. In a simple sentence, the subject, verb, or both may be compound (more than one).
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juan slept. (singular subject, singular verb) • Juan and Bobby slept. (compound subject, singular verb) • Juan and Bobby ate and slept. (compound subject, compound verb)

7.2.1. Compound Sentences

Definition	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A compound sentence contains two or more independent clauses and expresses more than one complete thought. 2. Independent clauses are joined by a comma and coordinating conjunctions or a semicolon without a coordinating conjunction.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bobby likes watching TV, but she prefers going to the movies. • Bobby likes watching TV; John enjoys exercising on the treadmill

Coordinating Conjunctions		
and	or	nor
for	so	yet
	but	

7.2.2. Complex Sentences

1. A complex sentence contains an independent clause and a dependent clause. A dependent clause may contain a subject and a verb, however, it cannot stand alone because it is dependent on an independent clause for completeness.

- She rarely takes vacations because she is the CEO.
dependent clause → Because she is the CEO
independent clause → She rarely takes vacations
 A comma is not needed because the independent clause comes first.

2. A dependent clause that appears at the beginning of a complex sentence is set off by a comma.
 - If you are going to walk to school, be sure to stay on the path.
dependent clause → If you are going to walk to school
independent clause → Be sure to stay on the path
 Because the dependent clause comes first, the comma is needed

Subordinate conjunctions introduce a dependent clause in a complex sentence.	
after	so
although	so that
as	that
as if	though
as long as	unless
as though	until
because	when
before	where
if	whereas
in order that	while
since	

7.2.3. Compound-Complex Sentences

Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A compound-complex sentence combines complex sentence and compound sentence forms. A compound-complex sentence contains one or more independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although she felt guilty for missing her friend's birthday, she took her out to dinner the next day, and they had a great time. • I try to eat healthy food, but because fast food is so convenient, I cannot maintain a healthy diet. • If he got the job, he would have to commute 50 miles to work, so he decided the job was not worth it.

Practice:

Recognizing Different Types of Conjunctions

Each of the following sentences is about some popular superstition. Each has one of the three types of conjunctions we have looked at so far. Circle it and on the blank identify it as **CO** (coordinating conjunction), **SUB** (subordinating conjunction), or **ADV** (adverbial conjunction).

1. SUB You will have good luck after a cat follows you home.
2. CO You should never cut a baby's fingernails, for he will become a thief.
3. SUB The weather will turn bad unless you clear your plate.
4. SUB If you plow on Good Friday, the ground will bleed.
5. SUB People should bring an old broom when they move into a new house.
6. ADV You shook out the tablecloth after sunset; therefore, you will never marry.
7. CO You should always clean the table in the evening, or the children will sleep badly.
8. SUB Your tongue is sore because you have told a lie.
9. SUB When your lips itch, someone is slandering you.
10. SUB After three girls accidentally look into a mirror together, the oldest girl gets married first.
11. CO You sweep a broom over your husband's feet, and he will run off.
12. SUB Whenever you put on your shoes, you should put on your right shoe first.
13. ADV You left on a trip with itchy feet; consequently, the trip will be unlucky.

Practice: Sentence Types: Simple, Compound, Complex, and Compound-Complex

Identify whether the sentences are simple, complex, compound or compound-complex. Please underline dependent clauses where it applies. 1.

1. Vampires Dairies is my favorite television show, but I also love True Blood **Compound**
2. The student wiped the white board that was filthy with last week's notes **Complex**
3. The trendy fashion designer released her new line on Wednesday. **Simple**
4. Tina and Hareem went to a bar in Hollywood to celebrate their anniversary. **Simple**
5. Wicked Regina cast a spell on the entire city, so the citizens decided to rebel. **Compound**
6. While waiting for the paint to dry, Angela went to Home Depot, and Martin organized the kitchen appliances. **Compound-Complex**

7.3. Fragments

1. A sentence fragment does not express a complete thought because it does not contain a subject and predicate. A fragment may also be a dependent clause. For these reasons, a fragment cannot stand alone as a

complete sentence.

- Enjoyed the movie. (no subject)
 - Speaking of movies, Joe, Lucy, and I. (no predicate)
 - Although I enjoyed the movie. (dependent clause, missing a complete thought)
2. To fix a fragment, add the missing component or join it with a complete sentence (independent clause).
- I enjoyed the movie.
 - Speaking of movies, Joe, Lucy, and I saw *Frozen* yesterday.
 - Although I enjoyed the movie, I prefer romantic comedies.

Run-ons

1. A run-on sentence occurs when a writer places no punctuation between independent clauses.
- Bobby likes movies John likes vacations.
2. To fix a run-on sentence, use one of these constructions
- Bobby likes movies. John likes vacations. (added period)
 - Bobby likes movies, and John likes vacations. (added comma and coordinating conjunction)
 - Bobby likes movies; John likes vacations. (added semicolon)
 - Although Bobby likes movies, John likes vacations. (adds a subordinating conjunction)

Practice

Supply commas where needed.

Examples: Susan stayed home from work because she was ill.
Because she was ill, Susan stayed home from work.

1. Stanley will remain president of the club as long as everyone has confidence in him.
2. Whenever we decide to ride the bus, it is usually late.
3. Several people have fallen on the ice since the city has not cleared the sidewalks.
4. Brad runs more often than any of his friends do.
5. Paula is very comfortable when she is wearing her blue jeans.
6. As you enter the room, please close the door behind you.
7. Rita and Bob walked to the service station after their truck had broken down.
8. While I was doing my homework, my brother kept interrupting me.
9. Unless the news is important, you should not disturb others while they're sleeping.
10. Although the movie has already started, I plan to hurry to the theater.
11. Joan studied for her math test before she did her history assignment.

7.4. Form of sentences

In the study of grammar there are two main issues: function and form.

Speaking about **form**, we will identify various phrases in a sentence:

Phrase – a word or more words built around the head word

- a) noun phrase – My watch has disappeared.
- b) verb phrase - My watch has disappeared.
- c) adjective phrase – She sounded a bit doubtful.
- d) adverb phrase – She answered quite rapidly.
- e) prepositional phrase – The keys were on the desk.