

Simple, Compound and Complex Sentences

Read the following sentence and decide if they are simple, compound or complex

1. The boy ate his lunch.
2. The unhappy boy with no shoes ate his tiny lunch on the door step in the rain.
3. After dinner, the baby woke up his mother with a loud yell.
4. The dog barked and the baby woke up
5. The police caught them and put them in jail.
6. She lived in Hull for many years but she didn't like it.
7. The dog barked because it was lonely
8. Because the dog barked, the baby woke up
9. The dog barked until the baby woke up
10. I was very happy when I first came to Hull.

Write three simple sentences

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Write three compound sentences

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Write three complex sentences

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Simple, Compound and Complex Sentences

Simple Sentences

Simple sentences have one verb.

- The man walked home.
- The tall man with a beard walked home in the pouring rain

Compound Sentences

Compound sentences have two verbs and are joined together by a conjunction (like but, so, or, and), both parts of the sentence make sense on their own.

- The dog barked and it woke the baby.
- I opened the door so she could come inside.

Complex Sentences

Complex sentences can have more than one verb. They usually have conjunctions like, if, when, because, whenever etc. They have a main clause and *subordinate clause*. The *subordinate clause* cannot work without the main clause.

- The baby woke up *when the doorbell rang*
- I can't help you *if you can't tell me what's wrong.*