

## SENTENCE STRUCTURE

A **complete sentence** must express a complete thought and must have a subject and a verb.  
→ *Example:* He lost the game.

A **sentence fragment** results from a *missing* subject, verb or complete thought.  
→ *Example:* Because he was lost.



## THERE ARE FOUR TYPES OF SENTENCES: SIMPLE, COMPOUND, COMPLEX OR COMPOUND-COMPLEX

**1** A **simple sentence** consists of one main clause. It expresses one main thought and has one subject and one verb. A simple sentence may contain a compound subject, or a compound verb or both.  
→ *Examples:* We enjoyed the concert.  
Amy and Scott were married yesterday. (compound subject: Amy and Scott)  
Ben is leaving work and going home. (compound verb: leaving and going)

**2** A **compound sentence** consists of two or more main clauses (in italics) connected by a conjunction, a semicolon or a comma.  
→ *Examples:* *Collecting fossils is fun, but I think identifying fossils is difficult.* (conjunction)  
*Andy's suit looks new; it just got back from the cleaners.* (semicolon)  
*Erin came home for Easter, and Courtney went to Florida.* (comma/conjunction)

**3** A **complex sentence** has one main clause (in italics) and one or more subordinate clauses (underlined).  
→ *Examples:* *Dad says* that good grades are the result of diligent studying. (main clause, one independent clause)  
Diligent studying is difficult, *because I have to work several hours before I can start studying.* (main clause, two dependent clauses)

**4** A **compound-complex sentence** has two or more main clauses (in italics) and one or more subordinate clauses (underlined).  
→ *Examples:* Because the school bus broke down, *the team rode in a van, and the cheerleaders rode in cars.*  
Unless my eyes are defective, *Kyle can't read manuals, because he has a poor memory.*

## SPELLING RULES

**Write *i* before *e* except after *c*, or when sounded like *a* as in weigh and eight.**

→ *Exceptions:* seize, weird, either, leisure, neither

**When the *ie/ei* combination is not pronounced *ee*, it is usually spelled *ei*.**

→ *Examples:* reign, weigh, neighbor

→ *Exceptions:* friend, view, mischief, fiery

**When a multi-syllable word ends in a consonant preceded by one vowel, the accent is on the last syllable and the suffix begins with a vowel — the same rule holds true: double the final consonant.**

→ *Examples:* prefer = preferred | allot = allotted | control = controlling

**If a word ends with a silent *e*, drop the *e* before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel.**

→ *Examples:* use = using | like = liking | state = stating | love = loving

**When the suffix begins with a consonant, do not drop the *e*.**

→ *Examples:* use = useful | state = statement | nine = ninety

→ *Exceptions:* argument, judgment, truly, ninth

**When *y* is the last letter in a word and the *y* is preceded by a consonant, change the *y* to *i* before adding any suffix except those beginning with *i*.**

→ *Examples:* lady = ladies | try = tries | happy = happiness | ply = pliable

**REVIEW ONLY**  
School Datebooks  
**DO NOT SUBMIT FOR PRINT**