

TYPES OF SENTENCE



A sentence is classified into Simple, Complex and Compound sentences.

What is a Simple Sentence?

A simple sentence contains a subject and a verb, and it expresses a complete thought:

- The girl went to the market
- Alice goes to the library and studies every day.

What is a Compound Sentence?

A compound sentence contains two independent clauses joined by a coordinating or correlative conjunction (with or without a comma) or a semicolon that functions as a conjunction. The conjunctions used are for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so. Except for very short sentences, coordinators are

always preceded by a comma. A few compound sentences:

- I tried to speak Spanish, and my friend tried to speak English.
- Though she started early, yet she was late for the show.

The above sentences are compound sentences. Each sentence contains two independent clauses, and they are joined by a conjunction with a comma preceding it.

What is a Complex Sentence?

A complex sentence has an independent clause joined by one or more dependent clauses. A complex sentence always has a subordinator such as because, since, after, although, or when or a relative pronoun such as that, who, or which.

- The book that Jonathan read is on the shelf.
- The house in which Gandhiji lived is a museum today.



TRY THIS!

Can you read this?

Olny srmst poelpe can. I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatrnd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihis is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig, huh? Yaeh, and I awlyas tghuhot spleling was ipmorantt!

PLURALS

GRAMMAR CHECK!

Like a noun, the verb also takes the form of a singular or plural verb. The important thing in verb plurals is to first identify whether the subject is singular or plural i.e. think of which verb you would use with he or she and which verb you would use with they.

- He talks.
- They talk.

Here, talks is used for the singular form, he while talk is used for the plural form they. Therefore, 'talks' is singular and 'talk' is plural.



Verb plurals follow certain rules:

Rule 1: Two singular subjects connected by 'or' or 'nor', either/or or neither/nor require a singular verb.

- My aunt or my uncle is arriving by train today.
- Neither Raj nor Rana is available.

Rule 2: When I is one of the two subjects connected by either/or or neither/nor, put it second and follow it with the singular verb 'am'.

- Neither she nor I am going to the festival.

Rule 3: When a singular subject is connected by 'or' or 'nor', either/or or neither/nor to a plural subject, put the plural subject last and use a plural verb.

- The serving bowl or the plates go on that shelf.

Here, the singular subject bowl is connected to the plural subject plates and the plural verb is 'go'.

- Neither John nor the others are available.

Rule 4: As a general rule, use a plural verb with two or more subjects when they are connected by 'and'.

- A dog and a cat are my pet animals.

Rule 5: Sometimes the subject is separated from the verb by words such as along with, as well as, besides, or not. Ignore these expressions when determining whether to use a singular or plural verb.

- The politician, along with his party members, is expected shortly.

- Knowledge, as well as fun, is the aim of this workshop.

