

Compound Sentences

A **compound sentence** is two or more simple sentences joined. A sentence with two (or more) subjects, each with its own verb, cannot be simple because it contains more than one complete thought (one clause is not dependent on the other). Most compound sentences are joined by the conjunction *and*, *but*, or *or*. A comma usually comes before the conjunction, unless the two clauses are very short. Occasionally a semicolon (;) can take the place of the conjunction.

Example: The bread was dry, but the cheese was tasty.
She laughed and he cried.
I can go; you can't go.

**Underline each independent clause in the compound sentences below.
Circle the conjunction and/or punctuation that separates the two clauses.**

1. I would love your approval, but I don't expect it.
2. Gary finished his essay, and he submitted it on time.
3. The dictionary page tore, and she taped it back together.
4. I will buy some sensible shoes, then I will start jogging daily.
5. He wanted a snack, but the contents of the refrigerator were not inviting.
6. You have your way; I'll have mine.
7. Mother fretted and father fumed.
8. The toast burned and the pancakes stuck.
9. She has a great voice, and she loves to sing opera.
10. Did you break the window or did Brandon do it?
11. Kate cooked the scrumptious feast, and Alex cleaned the house.
12. I haven't decided, but it's time to act.
13. For his birthday we will buy Andrew a tackle box, or we'll take him to the beach.
14. You get the bucket; I'll get the mop.
15. Jim wants to leave but Kelly isn't ready.

Name _____

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Read the simple sentences then change each into a compound sentence.

1. She followed her dream. _____

2. Robert loves to ski. _____

3. Cheryl is a math whiz. _____

4. The clock was wrong. _____

5. The child molded an elephant out of clay. _____

6. The house looked deserted. _____

7. The milk tasted sour. _____

8. The glass goblet shattered. _____

9. Teresa and Marius attended the matinee. _____

10. Perry bought the flowers and sent them. _____

26

Simple and Compound Sentences

Write S if the sentence is simple, and C if the sentence is compound.

- _____ 1. We followed him into the cemetery, but he seemed to disappear.
- _____ 2. The girl in this ad makes a lot of money modeling.
- _____ 3. Sherry and Rene love swimming and hiking.
- _____ 4. Run and hide.
- _____ 5. She petted the dog and teased the cat.
- _____ 6. The answer is quite simple, but you still can't figure it out.
- _____ 7. White water rafting is fun, but it can be very dangerous.
- _____ 8. *Oliver Twist* and *Great Expectations* are her favorite novels by Dickens.
- _____ 9. *Macbeth* is a tragic play by Shakespeare, and *Midsummer Night's Dream* is a comedy.
- _____ 10. In the pantry we found only a can of peas and a sack of flour.
- _____ 11. You can help, or you can leave.
- _____ 12. Connie enjoyed the book and will write a favorable book report.
- _____ 13. It may be cold, but at least it's not humid.
- _____ 14. The quarterback played in the Super Bowl, and then he went to Disney World.
- _____ 15. French is his favorite language, and Italian is his favorite type of food.
- _____ 16. The lights are lit, but no one appears to be home.
- _____ 17. Paul quit his job, but he was not out of work for long.
- _____ 18. Walk; don't run.
- _____ 19. Hong Kong is an exciting city, but Buenos Aires is my favorite.
- _____ 20. The books and the paper must be moved before morning.

