

Compound and Complex Sentences Activity Sheet

A. Take these simple sentences and make them into compound sentences.

1. Maggie had completed her run. She was covered in mud.
2. The plant was dying. It was covered in greenfly.
3. The wind nearly blew Aaron away. He decided to shelter in a nearby church.
4. The rabbit hopped into the road. The car swerved into a bush.

Conjunctions			
for	and	but	yet
so	nor	or	

B. The two clauses in each of these sentences have been shown in two different colours. You need to decide which is the main clause, which is the subordinate clause and then label them.

1. Michael hid the golden key under his bed so that he could keep it a secret.
2. After she had washed her hair, Petunia applied thick layers of makeup.
3. Trixie the cat was looking forward to a night out provided she found a way to get past the neighbour's dog.
4. Whenever he saw that coat, he fondly remembered his holiday in Norway.
5. Hanif, before he'd even opened the door, knew that something was wrong.

C. Put a comma into these sentences (if there needs to be one!)

1. No matter how much he tried the alien could not fit its horned foot into the trainers.
2. Cindy had felt lonely since the dog ran away.
3. While her parents were away Lorraine decided to have a party.
4. Marie found another dirty footprint wherever she went in the house.
5. Santa now that he'd got his breath back realised he was too fat for chimneys.
6. The television despite being only a week old exploded.
7. Chip burst out laughing as soon as they had gone.
8. The vase a beautiful delicate pink was far too expensive.

D. Re-write this passage so that it contains both compound and complex sentences.

You won't believe this. Yesterday I went to the bank. Two women came in wearing disguises. They walked up to the front desk. Then they demanded money. It looked like they were pointing guns. They held the guns under their coats. I thought the guns were probably cucumbers. I wasn't afraid of cucumbers. So I grabbed my handbag tight. Then I crept up behind one of them. I swung my bag back. Then thump! I hit the robber on the head.

For example: You won't believe this, yesterday I went to the bank and two women came in wearing disguises.

E. Write a guide for another pupil about the two sentence types-complex and compound. Make sure you explain what these key words mean:

- Compound sentence
- Conjunctions
- Complex sentence
- Main clause
- Subordinate clause