

Sentence Knowledge Organiser #1

Good Writing includes a mixture of 3 different sentence types: simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences.

Simple sentence: this has **one main or independent clause** and contains a **subject (who the sentence is about)** and a **verb (doing or action word)**. Sometimes it will also have an **object (the thing or person that the verb is being done to)**.

Sarah stood up.
The **children laughed**.
This morning **we went** to the **park**.
Our **dog dug** up the **bone**.

Compound sentence: this has **two main or independent clauses**. We use a co-ordinating conjunction to join the 2 clauses together and also include a comma.

Meet our co-ordinating conjunctions: **FANBOYS**
for and nor but or yet so

Sarah stood up, **and** her cat immediately jumped on to her vacant chair.
The children laughed, **for** the joke really was very funny.
This morning we went to the park, **but** we forgot to take our sunscreen.
Our dog dug up the bone, **so** he could rebury it elsewhere in the garden.
Today I could either bake a chocolate cake, **or** I could tidy my bedroom.

Complex sentence: this has a **main or independent clause** and also a **dependent clause**. Now, a dependent clause doesn't make sense on its own. Look: **After I had tidied my bedroom...** You are left asking the question 'What happened, what did you do?' You need to add a main clause to finish the sentence off.

After I had tidied my bedroom, I went into the kitchen and baked a chocolate cake.

This dependent clause is called a **subordinating clause**, and it starts with a **subordinating conjunction (after)**. *Notice that a subordinating clause also has a subject and a verb! If the subordinating clause comes first in the sentence, it is followed by a comma, but you don't need a comma if the subordinating clause comes after the main clause.*

A subordinating clause can come before a main clause, or it can follow it.

Sarah stood up quickly before the cat could jump on to her lap and cover her with its hair.

Some subordinating conjunctions you can use: **I SAW A WABUB**

if since as when although while after before until because

Mixing a compound and complex sentence. If you do this, the sentence will be longer and contain more information and detail.

While I was hanging out the washing, our dog was busy digging up a bone, and then he reburied it under our trampoline!