

Sentences Classified According to Structure A

15g. A sentence can be classified, depending on its structure, as *simple*, *compound*, *complex*, or *compound-complex*.

- (1) A *simple sentence* contains one independent clause and no subordinate clauses.
- (2) A *compound sentence* contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.
- (3) A *complex sentence* contains one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.
- (4) A *compound-complex sentence* contains two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

EXERCISE A Classify each of the following sentences according to its structure. On the line provided, write *S* for *simple*, *CD* for *compound*, *CX* for *complex*, or *CC* for *compound-complex*.

Example CC 1. Holiday customs vary around the world, but wherever they are held, celebrations often include food and special decorations.

1. A major festival in India is the Festival of the Lights (Diwali).
2. This holiday is celebrated by making lamps, and it also includes a cooking spree.
3. In addition to decorating their houses, the celebrants settle up their business affairs.
4. Relatives exchange gifts; then at sunset they light lamps that have special significance.
5. They light lamps to beckon Lakshmi, who is the Hindu goddess of wealth.

EXERCISE B Classify each of the following sentences according to its structure. On the line provided, write *S* for *simple*, *CD* for *compound*, *CX* for *complex*, or *CC* for *compound-complex*.

Example S 1. Sally Ride is a role model for many girls and women.

6. In June of 1983, Sally K. Ride became the first American woman to orbit the earth.
7. When she was growing up in the Los Angeles suburb of Encino, Ride appeared to be headed for a career in tennis, not in space.
8. She competed in local tournaments while she was still in high school, and she eventually became a nationally ranked amateur.
9. Ride evidently found space travel more compelling than tennis, and she became a member of the space shuttle program.
10. After the space shuttle *Challenger* exploded in 1986, Ride was appointed to the presidential commission that investigated the accident.

Sentences Classified According to Structure B

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- (1) A *simple sentence* contains one independent clause and no subordinate clauses.
- (2) A *compound sentence* contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.
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EXERCISE For each of the following sentences, underline any independent clauses once and any subordinate clauses twice. Then, classify each of the sentences according to its structure. On the line provided, write *S* for *simple*, *CD* for *compound*, *CX* for *complex*, or *CC* for *compound-complex*.

Example 5 1. After dinner, we took a walk and tried out our new shoes.

1. Before the contest began, the soloists were nervously pacing back and forth.
2. Tired of studying, Diego closed his book and turned on his stereo.
3. After the storm had uprooted the tree, some of the clean-up crew trimmed the branches, and others loaded them into trucks.
4. Without saying another word, Harriet collected her belongings, jammed them into a bag, and marched out of the meeting.
5. I waited impatiently as the postal worker approached our mailbox with my long-awaited package.
6. Take your jacket, or wear a sweater.
7. Jacques wished that he could go on the camping trip, but he couldn't convince his parents to let him go because he had come home late three nights the week before.
8. The flowers that create the beautiful scene outside the courthouse window are cared for by a professional gardener.
9. The arrival of the candidates had been anticipated for months; the city officials were waiting for them at the reception.
10. The only person with a key was Mr. Pavarotti, the owner and operator of the store.