**Compound or Complex?**

A **compound sentence** contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

A **complex sentence** contains one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDEPENDENT CLAUSE</th>
<th>My mom drinks coffee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUBORDINATE CLAUSE</td>
<td>because she likes hot beverages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPOUND SENTENCE</td>
<td>My mom will drink tea, but she prefers coffee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPLEX SENTENCE</td>
<td>Because she likes hot beverages, my mom drinks coffee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exercise**  For each of the following sentences, underline each independent clause once and each subordinate clause twice. Then, identify the sentence by writing **CD** for compound or **CX** for complex on the line provided.

**Example**  **CX**  1. Because the cardinal was bright red, I could see it clearly.

1. When Abe Lincoln gave a stump speech, he stood on a real stump.
2. Many trees lose their leaves in the fall, and they look cold and forlorn.
3. When we lived in southern Maryland, we visited Annapolis often.
4. Brian is mild tempered, and he makes friends easily.
5. If you move your knight to that square, I will capture him.
6. My new wool sweater shrank when I washed it in hot water.
7. Don’t give me any excuses; I don’t want to hear them!
8. If I wash the dishes, will you cook the meal?
9. Cameron, who is my cousin, is the new captain of the soccer team.
10. I dropped my sandwich on the floor, so I threw it in the garbage.
11. The movie was really scary, yet I could not stop watching.
12. Janet Jackson, whose music I enjoy, will be in town next week.
13. I washed the rug with detergent, but the red stain would not come out.
14. Since you asked me nicely, I will lend you some paper for the test.
15. Give your dog a bath, or do not let him inside the house.
16. Call me tonight, and we’ll make plans for the weekend.
17. I’ll ask my mother after she gets home from work.
18. The book that he is reading is about ancient Egypt.
19. My grandfather, whom I respect very much, will be ninety this summer.
20. Jane is eager to begin her new music class, but she’ll have to wait another week.
### Compound-Complex Sentences

A **compound-complex sentence** contains two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

**INDEPENDENT CLAUSES**
- I will decorate for the party
- you can prepare the food

**SUBORDINATE CLAUSE**
- when we get to my house

**COMPOUND-COMPLEX SENTENCE**
- When we get to my house, I will decorate for the party, and you can prepare the food.

### Exercise

In each of the following compound-complex sentences, underline the independent clauses once and the subordinate clause or clauses twice.

**Example** 1. Jane was late to the party, as I predicted, and Ron came too early.

1. When we planned our holiday party, we planned a small one, and we invited only a few friends.
2. We were expecting about eight people, but we were very surprised when ten extra guests showed up.
3. Luckily, we found out about the extra people in time; we raced to the grocery store just before it closed.
4. We got carried away and bought plenty of extra food; we were certain that most of our guests would be hungry.
5. Although I don’t like raw vegetables, we included them in the menu; healthy snacks please some people.
6. My friend Dennis is outgoing and creative, so I asked him to plan some group games that we would all enjoy.
7. The Wilson twins, who are not identical, arrived together, but they left with different friends after the party.
8. Before the party began, I borrowed a collection of CDs from friends, and I set up a CD player.
9. The music that I chose was a hit, and everyone enjoyed dancing to it.
10. Since they enjoyed the evening so much, Wayan and J.C. stayed afterward; they stacked dishes and bagged trash with me.
Complex or Compound-Complex?

16c. A complex sentence contains one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.

16d. A compound-complex sentence contains two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

COMPLEX After she leaves school, Kiesha takes ice-skating lessons.

COMPOUND-COMPLEX After she leaves school, Kiesha takes ice-skating lessons, and she stays at the rink for two hours.

**Exercise** Identify each sentence by writing CX for complex or CD-CX for compound-complex on the line provided.

**Example** CD-CX 1. Kiesha never misses a practice, but she is occasionally late because the rink is so far from her home.

1. When she was young, Kiesha roller-skated on sidewalks, and she begged for ice skates.
2. Although she had never skated on ice before, she had watched ice-skating competitions on television.
3. She dreamed about skating in competitions, yet she still needed ice skates before she could start lessons.
4. Her parents could not afford skates, which were very expensive, but they encouraged her to earn money herself.
5. Before the week was out, Kiesha had begun finding odd jobs that would pay a few dollars each.
6. She saved almost every dollar, although it required perseverance.
7. When she entered junior high school, Kiesha was skating in competitions, for she had bought her own skates.
8. The skates were paid for, yet she continued working odd jobs because she now paid for her own lessons.
9. After I heard Kiesha’s story, I admired her.
10. Although I can’t and don’t want to skate, I have learned a lot from Kiesha’s story, and I will pursue my own dream.
Review A: Kinds of Sentence Structure

**Exercise A** Identify each sentence by writing S for simple or CD for compound on the line provided.

Example  

1. Beavers and squirrels are rodents, yet many people don’t know this fact.

   ____ 1. A rodent’s teeth never stop growing.
   ____ 2. Rodents gnaw hard things, so their teeth don’t get very long.
   ____ 3. The capybara is the largest rodent of all.
   ____ 4. Capybaras can grow to four feet and weigh one hundred pounds.
   ____ 5. In prehistoric times, capybaras lived in North America, but now they are found only in Panama and South America.

**Exercise B** Underline each independent clause once and each subordinate clause twice. Then, identify each sentence by writing S for simple, CD for compound, CX for complex, or CD-CX for compound-complex on the line provided.

Example  

1. After I studied past presidents, history became my favorite subject.

   ____ 6. David Atchison may have been the president of the United States for one day.
   ____ 7. President Polk’s term had ended on March 4, 1849, which was a Sunday.
   ____ 8. Because it was a Sunday, the new president, Zachary Taylor, did not take the oath of office until March 5.
   ____ 9. Under an old law, the president pro tempore of the Senate became the president of the United States if no one else held the office.
   ____ 10. Today if the president and vice-president cannot do their jobs, the Speaker of the House takes over.
   ____ 11. Here’s another interesting fact.
   ____ 12. Technically, George Washington was not the first president of the U.S. government.
   ____ 13. That honor belonged to a man who had been Maryland’s representative to the Continental Congress.
   ____ 14. The first and only president of the Congress of the Confederation, which managed the first U.S. government, was John Hanson, and he was elected by the Congress in 1781.
   ____ 15. Hanson’s title was “President of the United States in Congress Assembled,” and he served for one year.