

English

Punctuation *and* Grammar

Types of Sentences

When editing our written work, one of the hardest errors to correct can be the use of sentences. There are three main types of sentences:

- Simple sentences
- Compound sentences
- Complex sentences

Previously, we studied simple sentences.
Now, we are concentrating on **compound sentences**.

A **compound sentence** contains two independent clauses (points) joined by a coordinator/ conjunction. An independent clause can stand alone as its own sentence. The coordinators are: *for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so*.

Except for very short sentences, coordinators always come after a comma. In the following sentences, the first independent clause is underlined while the second is outlined. The coordinator is circled.

- A. I tried to speak Spanish, (and) my friend tried to speak English.
- B. Alejandro played football, (so) Maria went shopping.
- C. Jason ate toast, (for) Samantha burnt the chicken.

Your Task:

1. In your English book, write ten compound sentences of your own, underlining the first clause, circling the coordinator and outlining the second clause.
2. Of the five sentences below, only three are compound sentences. Copy the correct compound sentences into your homework book under the heading 'Correct Compound Sentences'. Then, copy the two incorrect sentences in under the heading 'Not Compound Sentences' and write a one-line explanation of why they aren't compound sentences.
 - a. Jacqui and Amelia travelled, by car, to the beach.
 - b. Sarah won the swimming race, but Jamie was disqualified.
 - c. Ms Dhillon left the forms on her desktop, so Mr Harney had to rewrite them.
 - d. For lunch I am going to eat a salad sandwich and an apple.
 - e. Aimee did not enjoy the rainy weather, for she felt it made her hair look fluffy.