

University of Batna 2/ Department of English/First-year classes

Written Expression Course/ Teacher: Dr. N. KISSOUM

SENTENCE STRUCTURE/ PRACTICE

Exercise 1:

A. Identify the subjects and verbs in the following sentences by writing an “S” above the subject and a “V” above the verb. Identify the types of clauses by underlining independent clauses once and dependent clauses twice. Then indicate which type of sentence each one is.

Examples:

S V

a. Janine decided to volunteer at the Greyhound Rescue Shelter because she loves dogs. Complex

S V

S V S V

b. Janine loves dogs, so she decided to volunteer at the Greyhound Rescue Shelter. Compound

S V

S V

c. Janine decided to volunteer at a shelter that provides a home to rescued Greyhound dogs. Complex

S V

S V

S V

d. Janine wanted to give back to her community, so she decided to volunteer at a shelter that provides a home to rescued Greyhound dogs. Compound-Complex

1. I used to have a beautiful plant by my window, but it died when I forgot to water it.
2. With lightning speed, the defenseman’s perfectly-placed slapshot blasted the puck over the goalie’s shoulder and into the top left corner of the net.
3. The student finished his essay well before the end of the exam; nonetheless, he was exhausted from the effort of writing and didn’t feel like editing his work.
4. My favourite movie, which I’ve seen at least five times, depicts an epic battle between good and evil.
5. To Sam, nothing in the world could compare to the delicious gingerbread that his grandmother prepared for Christmas each year.
6. I’ll be waiting for you in the lobby, so just come down when you’re ready.

B. Apply your understanding of the four sentence types by writing sentences according to the instructions below. Practice restating the same ideas in different ways using the sentence patterns.

1. Write a simple sentence.

.....

2. Write a compound sentence that joins the clauses with a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

.....

3. Write a compound sentence that joins the clauses with a semicolon.

.....

4. Write a compound sentence that joins the clauses with a semicolon, a conjunctive adverb, and a comma.

.....

5. Write a complex sentence that includes an independent clause followed by a dependent clause beginning with **because** or **although**.

.....

6. Write a complex sentence that includes an independent clause interrupted by a dependent clause beginning with **who**, **that**, or **which**.

.....

7. Write a complex sentence that includes a dependent clause beginning with **after**, **when**, or **while** followed by an independent clause.

.....

8. Write a compound-complex sentence.

.....

Exercise 2:

1. Choose the correct coordinator from the following section and combine the two independent clauses in each pair in logical order.
2. Rewrite the sentence and punctuate it correctly.

For, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

1. Are you applying for graduate school? Will you look for a job?
2. Geology is concerned with the structure of the earth. Astronomy is concerned with the physical universe beyond the earth.
3. The cost of installation is very high. Solar domestic heating systems are economical to operate.
4. Energy needs are not going to decrease. Energy sources are not going to increase. (use nor)
5. Our supplies will decrease. Consumers must conserve energy sensibly.

Exercise 3:

1. Add another independent clause to the following independent clauses to form compound sentences.
2. Circle the conjunction and punctuate the sentences correctly.

Example: The college campus is located in the centre of the city, **so** it is very easy to do my shopping.

1. Students can attend day classes and

2. Students may live in the dormitories or
3. I have completed my homework for tomorrow but
4. I have taken six units of classes in English as a foreign language yet
5. Foreign students must take EFL classes for
6. Some students do not like to write term papers nor
7. The professor was lecturing so
8. I had to write an essay for Wednesday yet
9. Mary returned the book to the library for

Exercise 4: Add a conjunctive adverb with the same meaning as the word in parentheses.

Insert the right punctuation.

1. Advertising plays a significant part in American business it has a tremendous impact on the nation's economy. (addition)
2. Without commercials, the public's favourite programmes would not be shown viewers must accept them as necessary. (result)
3. Many ads and commercials do give important information about products some of them are merely humorous or foolish. (contrast)
4. Any consumers rely on advertisements businesses maintain large sums of money for this expense. (result)
5. Careful consumers rely on good advertising they would not buy products wisely. (choice)
6. I dislike television commercialsI do not like direct mail advertising. (addition)
7. Some advertisers try to push mediocre products on the public.....the consumer should beware. (result)

Exercise 5: Write a compound sentence about each of the following topics, using a different kind of conjunctive adverb for each sentence. Punctuate the sentence correctly.

Example: Watching television is an inexpensive form of entertainment; **furthermore**, it is a good way to learn English.

1. Algerian students
2. Examinations
3. My major
4. My family
5. My country

Exercise 6:

1. **Underline the independent clause of each sentence with a straight line.**
2. **Underline the dependent clause with a wavy line.**
3. **Write SUB above the subordinator.**

SUB

Example: Because the cost of education is rising, many students must work part-time.

1. When foreign students go to the United States, they sometimes suffer from culture shock.
2. Because the cost of education has risen, many students are having financial problems.

3. Please tell me where the student union is.
4. Engineers, who have an aptitude for drafting and mathematics, must also be artistic and imaginative.
5. While the contractor follows the blue print, the engineer checks the construction in progress.
6. Since the blueprint presents the details of the engineer's plans, it must be interpreted accurately by the contractor.
7. Students should declare a major by their junior year unless they have not made up their minds.
8. Even though I may declare my major now, I can still change it later.

Exercise 7:

1. Add a logical independent clause to each of the following dependent clauses.
2. Punctuate the sentence correctly.

1. After I graduate.....
2.unless I take twelve units.
3. Although physical exercise is necessary for good health.....
4.before I sign up for the course.
5. Because I had to look for a job.....
6.if you want to get to school on time.
7. While I waited in line to register for the new semester.....
8.whom I met at the social club meeting last month.

Exercise 8: Rewrite the following compound sentences into complex sentences by subordinating one of the clauses.

1. Make one clause a dependent clause introduced by the given subordinator.
2. Name the kind of relationship that exists between the dependent and independent clauses.

Example: Nowadays, many American women work in full-time jobs, **for** they must help to support their families. (**since**)

Reason: Nowadays, many American women work in full-time jobs **since** they must help to support their families.

1. Some women have become coal miners and construction workers, for there is less discrimination against them now. (because)
2. Many women in Third World countries want to work for they are educated. (who)
3. Commercials are necessary for business, but they can be a nuisance to the public. (although)
4. Some people believe everything they see and hear on commercials, yet many of the advertisements give misinformation. (even though)
5. Many people will not buy a product, for they do not like the commercial. (if)
6. Camping in the mountains or on beaches is not very expensive, yet you must first buy a lot of essential equipment. (though)
7. Foreign travel is expensive, but it is worth a lot in new experiences and memories. (even though)
8. Travelers must know the tipping standards of foreign countries, or they might be embarrassed. (unless)
9. A three-minute phone call to New York City between 8 AM and 5 PM costs \$1.68, but the same call between 5 PM and 8 AM costs 1.10. (whereas)