

I-The Simple Sentence

1-Subject + Verb + Complement

Verbs such as : be, become, feel, get, look, sound, turn, ect

Examples : John was scared

I feel tired

2-Subject + Verb

Verbs such as : disappear, get up, sleep, cry, fall, die, laugh, etc.

Examples : My foot hurts

The baby was sleeping

3-Subject + Verb + Object

Verbs such as : build, carry, find, plant, respect, etc

Examples : USA published its constitution

She decorated her room

4-Subject + Verb + Object + Object

Verbs such as : ask, feed, give, pay, sell, teach, tell, etc.

Examples : Peter bought his son a toy.

We never asked him why.

5-Subject + Verb + Object + Complement

Verbs such as : call, have, make, appoint, find, consider, etc.

Examples : Peter had his watch repaired.

6- It + Verb + Complement

Verbs such as : be, become, get, turn, etc.

Examples : It became boring after a while.

7- There + Verb + Complement

Verbs such as : be, seem, remain, exist, etc.

Examples : There are plenty more fish in the sea.

There remained a few problems to solve.

II- The Coordinated Sentences

1-Clauses joined by punctuation alone

Examples : Kill them, banish them, segregate them.

John was sick ; he did not come to school.

Clauses joined by simple coordination

Main conjunctions/ and, but, or, so, then, yet, etc.

Examples : I like to read, and I write in my journal every night.

I always take a book to the beach, yet I never seem to turn a single page.

Clauses joined by correlative conjunctions

Main conjunctions : not only_but also, either_or, neither_nor, whether, etc.

Examples : Mosques are not only places of worship, they also offer instruction in the Moslem way of life.

Either you do it or I will.

Whether a parliament is trully representative is questionable.

II- The Complex Sentence

1-Time Clause

Main Markers : when, until, ever since, before, etc.

Examples : Children will not leave school until they have reached the age of sixteen.

When school was finished, I went out with some friends.

2-Place Clause

Main markers : Where, wherever, everywhere, etc.

Examples : Where there is a will, there is a way.

I put it where you will never find it.

3- Manner Clause

Main markers : how, the way, as, etc.

Examples : How you do it is up to you.

How well Denny will react remains to be seen.

Do as you're told.

4-Condition Clause

Main markers : if, unless, except that, providing, in case, etc.

Examples : In case I am not there, leave a message.

They cannot be creative unless society permits it.

Should you meet him there, please say hello to him.

Only get rid of that man, and the labour will be our own.

5- Reason Clause

Main markers : because, as, since, for, etc.

Examples : I do not complain for I am one of the lucky ones.

As it was raining, I bought an umbrella.

The others grumbled about how unfair it was.

6-Result Clause

Main markers : and so, thus, as a result, etc.

Examples : The extent of the damage was so great that the Federal Government had to intervene.

We refused to do his work, and so he had to face his responsibility.

7-Concession Clause

Main markers : although, despite, even if, except that, etc.

Examples : although they earn less now, the feeling of dignity is insuperable.

I believe in the press despite its possible distortion of facts and omissions.

Although he is small, he is very strong.

8-Purpose Clause

Main markers : to, so that, in order to, so as, so as to, etc.

Examples : Spell it slowly so I can hear it.

I will remind him so that he won't forget.

9-Relative Clause

Main markers : who, which, whom, that, whose, etc.

Examples : Philosophy teaches us to feel uncertain about things that seem self-evident.

10-Comparison Clause

Main markers : as, in the same way, like, etc.

He ate more than his sister (did).

Formal Types of Sentences

1-Declarative Sentences Example : Democracy is less hateful than other forms of government.

2-Negative Sentences Example : They do not see life in terms of power.

3-Interro-negative Sentences Example : Why don't you do it now ?

Could you not do it now ?

Didn't Mary tell you what to do ?

4-Interrogative Sentences Example : Did he go to college after all ?

5- Imperative Sentences Example : Give us a more varied program !

6-Exclamatory Sentences Example : What a sight !

7-Emphatic Sentences Example : Do be quiet.

I did remember to ask him.

8- Elliptic Sentences Example : He wanted to go, and so did I.

You won't go and neither will they.

9-Passive Sentences Example : Some barriers may have been removed.

Exercises

Exercise 1

Divide and name the different elements of each of the sentences below using letters (ex S+V, S+V+O etc).

- 1-Soldiers seldom die
- 2-Richard became his nation's first minister.
- 3- It didn't look good to see your daughter in panic
- 4-Make English sound life-like .
- 5-Democracy admits variety.
- 6-They must offer the government constructive proposals.
- 7-I asked him the time
- 8-It was a pleasure to meet you.
- 9- They elected him chairman.
- 10-There was not that kind of curiosity.

