

Name _____

- A **clause** is a group of words that has a subject and a verb.
- An **independent clause** can stand alone as a sentence.
- A **simple sentence** has one independent clause.
- A **compound sentence** has two or more independent clauses.

Read each sentence. On the lines provided, write *simple* if it has one independent clause. Write *compound* if it has two or more independent clauses.

1. I wanted to go to the concert, but my parents wouldn't let me. compound
2. Mrs. Gupta lives on a very busy road in the middle of the city. simple
3. He got a hot dog, she got a hamburger, and you got a salad. compound
4. Can we go to the movies later this evening? simple
5. There are too many stars in the sky to count all of them. simple
6. The little puppy was adopted quickly, for it was very sweet. compound
7. The balloon drifted up into the fluffy clouds above. simple
8. We left early, yet the traffic on the highway still made us late. compound
9. Do you want to read a book, or would you like to take a walk? compound
10. My cousin thinks he was lucky to get into his favorite college. simple

Name _____

- A **clause** has a subject and a verb. An **independent clause** can stand alone as a sentence.
- A **simple sentence** has one independent clause. A **compound sentence** has two or more independent clauses.
- Independent clauses in a compound sentence are usually joined by a **coordinating conjunction**, such as **and, but, or, for, nor, or yet**.

Read each sentence. Circle the coordinating conjunction that best completes the sentence and write it on the line provided.

1. We can go to Florida for vacation, (or/ nor) we can visit California. or
2. My sister asked me to go with her, (for/ but) I did not want to. but
3. I brought a stool into the kitchen, (or/ for) I could not reach the cabinet. for
4. The ostrich has feathers and wings, (yet/ nor) this bird cannot fly. yet
5. Haley is good at math, (but/ for) Raul is better at science. but
6. She got home late from work, (or/ and) we asked if she was tired. and
7. They did not see the solar eclipse, (nor/ yet) did they see the comet. nor
8. Firefighters put their lives at risk, (for/ yet) they take important safety measures. yet
9. The dog ate his biscuit, (and/ or) a squirrel stole the treat. or
10. Summer is almost over, (and/ nor) school will begin soon. and

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- Use a **comma** and a coordinating conjunction to join two independent clauses and form a compound sentence.
- You can also use a **semicolon** to join two independent clauses.

A. Use a comma and a coordinating conjunction to combine each pair of independent clauses and form a compound sentence.

1. I am good at football. Luis is a better player than I am.

I am good at football, but (yet) Luis is a better player than I am.

2. There is no milk left. My friends drank it all.

There is no milk left, for my friends drank it all.

3. The class can take a trip to the zoo. We can visit the museum.

The class can take a trip to the zoo, or (and) we can visit the museum.

B. Use a semicolon to combine each pair of independent clauses and form a compound sentence.

4. Alligators have wide snouts. Crocodiles have narrow snouts.

Alligators have wide snouts; crocodiles have narrow snouts.

5. I could not remember the answer. I had to take a guess.

I could not remember the answer; I had to take a guess.

Name _____

A. Read each sentence. On the lines provided, write S if it is a simple sentence. Write C if it is a compound sentence. Circle the coordinating conjunction in the compound sentences.

1. I have a solo in this year's winter concert. _____ **S**
2. She can listen to music, **(or)** she can study for the test. _____ **C**
3. I am good at some things, **(and)** I am bad at others. _____ **C**
4. The ocean tide will come in later this evening. _____ **S**
5. Aaron is the fastest runner in the entire school. _____ **S**
6. My mother is angry, **(for)** I did not clean my room. _____ **C**

B. Read the independent clauses. Circle the letter of the conjunction that would best combine the clauses to form a compound sentence.

7. He does not play video games.

He does not watch television.

- a. yet
- b. but
- (c.) and**
- d. or

8. Maya went to bed early.

She was still tired the next day.

- (a.) but**
- b. or
- c. for
- d. nor

Name _____

- A **run-on sentence** combines two or more independent clauses incorrectly.
- Fix a **run-on sentence** by writing separate sentences or combining the sentences correctly.

Correct each run-on sentence by separating it into two sentences.

1. We have a new car it is bright red.

We have a new car. It is bright red.

2. I must hurry up the store will close shortly.

I must hurry up. The store will close shortly.

3. The dog ran to meet its owner it was happy to see him.

The dog ran to meet its owner. It was happy to see him.

4. The baby looked up at the sky the sun was shining.

The baby looked up at the sky. The sun was shining.

5. Snowflakes come in different sizes I like big snowflakes best.

Snowflakes come in different sizes. I like big snowflakes best.

6. She was nervous when she got on stage there were so many people!

She was nervous when she got on stage. There were so many people!

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A **run-on sentence** combines two or more independent clauses incorrectly.

1. It may be missing a coordinating conjunction and comma.
2. It may include a comma, but it does not include a coordinating conjunction or connecting word.
3. It may include a comma and coordinating conjunction, but it has too many independent clauses.

Read each sentence. Write C if the sentence is written correctly. If it is a run-on sentence, write the number from above that correctly describes the sentence.

1. We tried to catch the mouse, it got away. 2
2. The student was shy and did not make friends quickly. C
3. The joke was funny everyone laughed at it. 1
4. You should bring an umbrella because it is raining outside. C
5. My parents like to exercise, they go hiking with me a lot. 2
6. I have a game, and my family plays it with me, and it is fun. 3
7. There is a rainbow over the field it is beautiful to see. 1
8. My friend called, but it is late, but we talk on the phone. 3
9. Do you know where I can find a taxi in this neighborhood? C
10. I did not like the sushi, I did not eat it. 2

Name _____

- A sentence has a subject and a predicate. A **fragment** is a group of words that is missing a subject, a predicate, or both. Finish the thought.
- To correct a run-on sentence, rewrite it as separate sentences or combine the sentences correctly.

Rewrite the sentence correctly on the line provided. If no change is needed, write *No change needed* on the line.

1. Likes to eat oatmeal and waffles for dinner sometimes.

**Possible response: He likes to eat oatmeal and waffles for dinner
sometimes.**

2. I am happy about it.

No change needed

3. They carried the bags, I held the door for them.

Possible response: They carried the bags, and I held the door for them.

4. My little sister practices hard.

No change needed

5. To school in the morning when the sun comes up.

**Possible response: We go to school in the morning when the sun
comes up.**

6. Dad was driving the car I fell asleep in the back seat.

Possible response: Dad was driving the car. I fell asleep in the back seat.

Name _____

A. Circle the letter of the run-on sentence.

1. a. They bought apples, grapes, and cherries.
b. We followed the path, we still got lost.
c. You have to fix your bed and wash the dishes.
2. a. The stars glittered in the sky they were far away.
b. The ground was soft in one spot, so we did not step there.
c. The eagle soared high above the trees and mountains.
3. a. Ants work together to gather food and build a home.
b. My brother likes to sleep late on Saturdays, he is very lazy.
c. We will visit national parks, museums, and landmarks on vacation.

B. Read each sentence. Write *R* if it is a run-on sentence. Write *C* if the sentence is written correctly.

4. I went to school, and I took a test, and the teacher said I did well. *R*
5. The roof of the house has a hole in it, rain will come into the house. *R*
6. The horse has a crack in its hoof and cannot walk very well. *C*
7. There are pencils in this tin can and pens in that one. *C*
8. The shop was filled with items I was careful not to break anything. *R*