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COMPOUND SENTENCE (Part 1)

After studying through this chapter, you are expected to be able to write compound sentences using coordinate conjunctions and conjunctive adverbs.

A simple sentence consists of one clause, an independent clause, while a complex sentence consists of at least two clauses, one independent (a main clause) and at least one dependent clause (subordinate clause). A compound sentence consists of two independent clauses. These clauses could actually be written out as two separate simple sentences. Study these sentences below.

No	Sentence
1	Bill sang a song.
2	Jack played the guitar.
3	Bill sang a song and Jack played the guitar.
4	When Jack played the guitar, Bill sang a song.
5	Mary was sitting down.
6	Molly was walking around.
7	Mary was sitting down but Molly was walking around.
8	Mary was sitting down while Molly was walking around.

Both Sentences 1 and 2 are simple sentences. When we combine these two with a coordinate conjunction “and,” we have a compound sentence, Sentence 3. Thus, Sentence 3 is a compound sentence, made up of two independent clauses. However, Sentence 4 is not a compound sentence. It is a complex sentence. Similarly, by combining Sentences 5 and 6 we have a compound sentence, Sentence 7. Can you explain why Sentences 3 and 7 are compound sentences, while Sentences 4 and 8 are complex sentences? We can say that a compound sentence is made up of two independent clauses joined by a coordinate conjunction; while a complex sentence consists of two clauses—one independent and one dependent—joined by a subordinate conjunction.

Activity 7.1

Following are 9 sentences. Decide whether each is a simple sentence, a compound sentence, or a complex sentence.

1. She was tired, so she fell asleep.
2. After she woke up, she walked through the island.
3. She found a small creek after walking for several hours.
4. She drank, and she fell sleep again beside the water.
5. It was afternoon when she woke up again.
6. She climbed a hill, and she looked around the island from the top.

7. She then walked to the west, for she saw smoke from a house.
8. She was very tired, but she kept on walking.
9. Finally she reached the house, and there an old man greeted her.

Coordinate Conjunctions

There are only a small number coordinate conjunctions—“and,” “but,” “yet,” “or,” “so,” and “for.” In addition, their meanings are not difficult to understand. Study the following sentences.

No	Coordinate Conjunction	Example
9	and “addition”	Mary was a nurse, and she was a student.
10	but “contradiction”	Mary was a nurse, but Molly was a manager.
11	yet “contradiction”	Jack did not agree, yet he kept silent.
12	or “alternative”	You should study hard, or you will not pass.
13	so “effect”	John studied well, so he passed the exam.
14	for “cause”	John passed the exam, for he studied well.

Each of the sentences above is a compound sentence, made up of two independent clauses, i.e., clauses that can stand alone as separate sentences. Sentence 9 could be rewritten as “Mary was a nurse. And she was a student.” The relationship between clauses in Sentence 9 is that of addition. Sentence 10 could be rewritten as “Mary was a nurse. But Molly was a manager.” The relationship between clauses in Sentence 10 is that of contradiction. Sentence 11 could be rewritten as “Jack did not agree. Yet he kept silent.” The relationship between clauses in Sentence 11 is also that of contradiction. Sentence 12 could be rewritten as “You should study hard. Or you will not pass.” The relationship between clauses in Sentence 12 is that of alternative or consequence. Sentence 13 could be rewritten as “John studied well. So he passed the exam.” The relationship between clauses in Sentence 13 is that of effect. Sentence 14 could be rewritten as “John passed the exam. For he studied well.” The relationship between clauses in Sentence 14 is that of cause. Thus, we see that a compound sentence consists of two independent clauses.

Activity 7.2

Following are 9 simple sentences. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence using the coordinate conjunction “and.”

1. My sister swims every Sunday.

⇒ _____

2. Molly will become a manager.
⇒ _____
3. Mary kept her bedroom clean.
⇒ _____
4. Most students plan to go to Bali.
⇒ _____
5. Jack enjoys listening to rock music.
⇒ _____
6. My father refuses to go out at night.
⇒ _____
7. John lent his new car to his brother.
⇒ _____
8. My brother brought me a box of candies.
⇒ _____
9. My mother reads a magazine in her spare time.
⇒ _____

Activity 7.4

Following are 9 simple sentences. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence using the coordinate conjunction "but" or "yet."

1. My father likes to smoke cigars.
⇒ _____
2. Molly will get married next month.
⇒ _____
3. My mother watches TV in the evening.
⇒ _____
4. Jack enjoys writing letters to friends.
⇒ _____
5. My sister goes to campus everyday.
⇒ _____
6. John lent his old blanket to his sister.
⇒ _____
7. My brother bought me a box of chocolate.
⇒ _____
8. Mary always keeps her bedroom tidy.
⇒ _____
9. Most students do not want to stay indoor.
⇒ _____

Activity 7.6

Following are 9 simple sentences. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence using the coordinate conjunction "or."

1. We had better hurry.
⇒ _____
2. I must wash the baby.
⇒ _____
3. My sister should study hard.
⇒ _____
4. Molly had better clean this mess.
⇒ _____
5. My brother must do his homework.
⇒ _____
6. Jack should repaint the house.
⇒ _____
7. John had better come on time.
⇒ _____
8. Mary must revise her paper.
⇒ _____
9. You should obey the rules.
⇒ _____

Activity 7.8

Following are 9 simple sentences. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence using the coordinate conjunction "so."

1. It is Sunday tomorrow.
⇒ _____
2. It is my birthday today.
⇒ _____
3. John has fallen sick again.
⇒ _____

4. My mother has left for Jakarta.
⇒ _____
5. Jack has not contacted me today.
⇒ _____
6. John bought a new blanket yesterday.
⇒ _____
7. My father's car broke down this morning.
⇒ _____
8. Mary always wakes up early every morning.
⇒ _____
9. The student forgot to do his homework.
⇒ _____

Activity 7.10

Following are 9 simple sentences. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence using the coordinate conjunction "for."

1. We had better take a rest.
⇒ _____
2. The teacher was very pleased.
⇒ _____
3. We have to cook dinner tonight.
⇒ _____
4. Mary never comes to campus late.
⇒ _____
5. Molly had better clean this room.
⇒ _____
6. My father seldom goes out at night.
⇒ _____
7. John knows that I sent Molly a letter.
⇒ _____
8. My brother will buy me a box of candies.
⇒ _____
9. Jack has taken his brother to hospital.
⇒ _____