

KS3 English Quiz - Sentences (Complex) 01 (Questions)

In English, complex sentences have two or more clauses. A clause has a subject and verb. In the sentence "She was late, because the bus had stopped everywhere", the subjects are "she" and "bus" and the verbs are "was" and "stopped".

Take care to learn the difference between simple, compound and complex sentences. A simple sentence has a single clause: "She was late". A compound sentence has two clauses joined by a simple connective such as "and", "but" or "or". Here is an example of a compound sentence: "She was late and the bus stopped everywhere". A complex sentence has two clauses and also explains the relationship between the two: "She was late BECAUSE the bus had stopped everywhere". The type of word needed to explain this relationship is a connective.

You can test your understanding of connectives in the quizzes devoted to the topic. Here you can test your ability to distinguish between simple, compound and complex sentences. Remember that a phrase is not the same as a clause, but is instead a cluster of words used for a single function. In the previous sentence "a cluster of words" is a noun phrase (you can see there is no verb in that group of words, so it cannot be a clause).

If you enjoy this quiz, there are more quizzes about sentences to play!

1. **Select the correct term for the following.**
He couldn't play his violin, because a string was broken.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

2. **Select the correct term for the following.**
Before he could play his violin, he had to mend it.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

3. **Select the correct term for the following.**
After he had mended his violin, he played it.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

4. **Select the correct term for the following.**
The sky was blue, however, it was starting to rain.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

5. **Select the correct term for the following.**
..... the pouring rain
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

6. **Select the correct term for the following.**
The rain poured down.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

7. **Select the correct term for the following.**
They had to stay indoors, because of the rain.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

8. **Select the correct term for the following.**
Although she had injured her hand, she played on.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

9. **Select the correct term for the following.**
..... her injured hand
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

10. **Select the correct term for the following.**
She had injured her hand but she played on.
 Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

KS3 English Quiz - Sentences (Complex) 01 (Answers)

1. **Select the correct term for the following.**
He couldn't play his violin, because a string was broken.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

Complex sentences have two or more clauses

2. **Select the correct term for the following.**
Before he could play his violin, he had to mend it.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

A subordinate clause (such as "Before he could play his violin") doesn't make sense by itself

3. **Select the correct term for the following.**
After he had mended his violin, he played it.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

A subordinate clause adds to the main clause

4. **Select the correct term for the following.**
The sky was blue, however, it was starting to rain.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

Connectives such as "because" and "although" introduce subordinate clauses

5. **Select the correct term for the following.**
..... the pouring rain

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

A phrase is a group of words, often lacking a verb

6. **Select the correct term for the following.**
The rain poured down.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

This sentence has one subject, "rain", and one verb, "poured"

7. **Select the correct term for the following.**
They had to stay indoors, because of the rain.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

"Because" often begins a subordinate clause. Simple sentences do not have subordinate clauses

8. **Select the correct term for the following.**
Although she had injured her hand, she played on.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

Mark clauses off with commas to separate them

9. **Select the correct term for the following.**
..... her injured hand

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

A phrase is a group of words which can't stand alone as a sentence. "Her injured hand" is a noun phrase

10. **Select the correct term for the following.**
She had injured her hand but she played on.

- Complex sentence
 Compound sentence
 Phrase
 Simple sentence

When two simple sentences have been joined you have a compound sentence. "She had injured her hand" is a simple sentence, as is "She played on". The two can be joined with the connective "but"