

# Sentence Structure

## Lesson Plan

**Aim:** To support students in their understanding and practice of the four types of sentence structures: simple, compound, complex and complex-compound.

**Time:** 60 minutes & homework task.

## Lesson Suggestion

### Lead in

- Distribute **worksheet 1**. Students ask & answer questions.
- Feedback: project the **writing criteria** for your course if you have one.

### Noticing Exercise

- **Task 1:** Students read the paragraph & answer the questions.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 1 task 1 ANSWERS**.
- Students read the sentence structure rules.

### Guided Practice

- Distribute **worksheet 2**. Students complete **task 1**: re-ordering the words to make simple sentences.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 2 task 1 ANSWERS**.
- Students complete **task 2 (i)**: connect the sentences with the correct linking word to make compound sentences.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 2 task 2 ANSWERS**.
- Students complete **task 3**: connect an independent and dependent clause using the given linking word to make complex sentences.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 2 task 3 (i) ANSWERS**.
- Students complete **task 3 (ii)**: complete the sentence heads to make a complex sentence.
- Feedback: Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 2 task 3 (ii) ANSWERS**.
- Students complete **task 4**: use the given information to make complex-compound sentences.
- Feedback: distribute or project **task 4 ANSWERS**.

### Freer Practice

- Distribute or project **worksheet 3**. Students choose a topic & write a paragraph.
- Feedback options: i. Teachers take in and mark. Use our error correction code: <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/error-correction> . ii. Students do peer feedback. Use the included **checklist**.

### Homework

- Students choose a topic connected to their studies and write a paragraph paying careful attention to their use of sentence structures.

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## Worksheet 1: Sentence Structure

### Lead in

- Discuss the following questions in pairs.
1. What do you need to consider when writing a paragraph?
  2. Do your paragraphs have topic, supporting and concluding sentences?
  3. Do [redacted] ? Why?
  4. How do you normally link your sentences together?
  5. How will [redacted] course?

### Task 1

- Read the paragraph and answer the following questions:

The role of a teacher is one of considerable debate nowadays. Many people believe their role is to simply impart knowledge, [redacted] and encourage their students. Other teacher roles include that of an assessor, which involves evaluating a student's learning and [redacted] of the classroom environment. This classroom management role in particular has changed [redacted] the [redacted] classroom. While teachers are now required to not only adapt to these new technologies, but also to embrace [redacted] of [redacted] meaningful way.

1. How many sentences are there?
2. How many different types of sentences are there?
3. How do they differ?
4. How are the sentences connected?

### Grammar Review

- Read the following explanations and examples about the 4 types of sentence structures:

- A **simple** sentence expresses a single thought and must contain a subject and a verb.  
*e.g. The government has a responsibility to ensure the safety of its citizens.*
- A **compound** sentence consists of two simple sentences that are connected with a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).  
*e.g. Some believe the government should increase spending on national defence, yet others believe the expenditure should be allocated to education.*
- A **complex** sentence is an independent clause connected to one or more dependent clauses using a subordinating conjunction (despite, although) or a relative pronoun (who, which).  
*e.g. Despite the government's promise to tackle childhood obesity, the 2020 target has not been met.*
- A **complex-compound** sentence has two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.  
*e.g. Due to the failed handling of the crisis, the Prime Minister was forced to resign and a general election was called.*

## Worksheet 2: Sentence Structure

### Task 1

#### Simple sentences

Re-order the words to make a complete and correct sentence:

*Example: Use media social is of the making less sociable us*

*Answer: The use of social media is making us less sociable.*

1. More children accessing the unsupervised Internet more and are

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The violence \_\_\_\_\_ in

\_\_\_\_\_

3. A privacy \_\_\_\_\_ should to

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Has \_\_\_\_\_ we modern

\_\_\_\_\_

### Task 2

#### Compound sentences

Join the two sentences with the correct linking word and add commas where necessary:

*E.g. Rich nations are becoming richer, but poorer countries are getting poorer. (~~but~~ / or)*

- a) The company was making a profit \_\_\_\_\_ still went bust. (*so / yet*)

- b) \_\_\_\_\_ many independent convenience stores can't compete. (*nor / so*)

- c) Sales \_\_\_\_\_ workers \_\_\_\_\_ they will make the most dedicated employees. (*for / but*)

- d) Many \_\_\_\_\_ a gap year abroad \_\_\_\_\_ undertake \_\_\_\_\_ countries. (*and / for*)

### Task 3 (i)

#### Complex sentences

Join the two clauses with the given linking word and adapt the grammar to suit the meaning:

*Example*

**Since** some children receive little or no encouragement from their parents, they often struggle with self-confidence at school.

**which**

Some children receive little or no encouragement from their parents, **which** means they often struggle with self-confidence at school.

- a) Art-related subjects must be removed from the curriculum **so that** children are encouraged to focus on more useful subjects such as information technology.  
**[so as to]**

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- b) Many university [redacted] **because of** their rising [redacted].  
**[because]**

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- c) **Although** more [redacted], science courses are still [redacted] by men.  
**[in spite of]**

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- d) Having a [redacted]. **Besides** this, it can create uniformity [redacted].  
**[In addition to]**

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### Task 3 (ii)

#### Complex sentences

Complete the sentences to make a complex sentence:

*Example*

*Smart home technology has enabled us to save time and money as well as...*

*Smart home technology has enabled us to save time and money as well as increase the security and comfort required for a modern lifestyle.*

- a) With the development of artificial intelligence,

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- b) As many things that [redacted],

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- c) Although there are [redacted] own laptop,

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- d) Owing to the fact that [redacted] in recent years,

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**Task 4**

**Complex-compound sentences**

Join the three clauses to make one complete sentence:

*Example*

- a) *Fair Trade is one type of alternative business model.*
- b) *Fair Trade aims to protect small scale farmers.*
- c) *Fair Trade guarantees farmers a fair price for their produce.*

*Fair Trade, which is one type of alternative business model, aims to protect small scale farmers and guarantees them a fair price for their produce.*

1.

- a) The number of people travelling internationally is growing.
- b) The demand for more flights is increasing.
- c) It is having a major impact on the environment.

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2.

- a) Congestion [redacted] quality.
- b) Some people believe privately-owned vehicles should be banned.
- c) Others [redacted] solution.

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3.

- a) Computer and [redacted] most young people.
- b) Many parents consider them detrimental to their child's development.
- c) Experts [redacted] coordination.

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4.

- a) English was once [redacted] Internet.
- b) Now it has become the dominant language of the world.
- c) It could [redacted] globally.

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## Worksheet 3: Sentence Structure

### Task

Choose a topic from the list below and write a paragraph including the 4 types of sentence structures:

- Sport as a compulsory school subject.
- GM foods.
- Childhood obesity.
- Fast food.
- Veganism.

Write your paragraph here:

[www.academic-englishuk.com](http://www.academic-englishuk.com)

### Feedback

- Improve your own writing skills by reading and reviewing your partner's essay. Use the following checklist to help you:

Has your partner...	Yes/No/Not Sure
used a range of sentence structures?	
used a variety of cohesive devices?	
used the correct punctuation in compound and complex sentences?	
linked their dependent clauses with independent clauses appropriately?	

## Worksheet 1: Sentence Structure **ANSWERS**

### Task 1

The role of a teacher is one of considerable debate nowadays. Many people believe their role is to simply impart knowledge, but others claim their main aim should be to inspire and encourage their students. ....

**ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...**