

SENTENCE TYPES

Clauses:

Every clause must have a **SUBJECT** and a **VERB**. There are 2 types of clauses:
(1) Independent and (2) Dependent.

Independent Clause: contains a subject, a verb, and expresses a complete thought. In other words, it can stand *independently*.

Dependent Clause: contains a subject and a verb **BUT** does not express a complete thought and, therefore, cannot be left alone. If a dependant clause is left alone, a fragment will result. These clauses *depend* on independent clauses to express a complete thought.

Sentence Types:

1. Simple Sentence = 1 independent clause

EX - The students work hard.
I C

2. Compound Sentence = 2 independent clauses joined in one of two ways:

EX 1 - joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS):

The students work hard, and they will pass.
I C CC I C

EX 2 - joined with a semicolon and a transition word:

The students work hard; therefore, they will pass.
I C TRANS I C

3. Complex Sentence = 1 independent clause and 1 (or more) dependent clause

EX - Because the students work hard, they will pass.
D C I C

****NOTE:** If you reverse the order of the sentence, a comma is often **NOT** necessary:

The students will pass because they work hard.
I C D C

4. Compound-Complex Sentence = 2 (or more) independent clauses and 1 (or more) dependent clause

EX 1: Because the students work hard, they will pass, and they will be happy.
D C I C CC I C

EX 2: The class was difficult; however, the students will pass because they worked hard.
I C TRANS I C D C

****NOTE:** Remember, the rules of sentence combining as discussed with compound sentences apply here as well!