

ENGLISH

Types of Sentences – Form

What is a Sentence?

A sentence is a group of words and has at least one clause in it. It conveys meaning and is complete.

Dependent and Independent Clauses

A clause which can stand alone as a sentence is called an **independent clause**.

A clause which cannot stand alone as a sentence and always relies on the independent clause to complete it is known as a **dependent clause**.

The door was bolted,	so	the guests left.
Independent clause	Coordinating conjunction	Independent clause

Since	the door was bolted,	the guests left.
Subordinate conjunction	Dependent clause	Independent clause

Types of Sentences according to Form

There are four types of sentences in English:

- Simple sentences
- Compound sentences
- Complex sentences
- Compound–complex sentences

Simple Sentences

Simple sentences have one **subject** and one verb. In other words, they contain just one clause.

<p>The files <u>are</u> in the cabinet.</p> <p>The clown with the red shiny nose <u>is</u> Bozo.</p> <p>Meenal <u>will be playing</u> for the college soccer team.</p>

Compound Sentences

Compound sentences have two independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction. In other words, it is made of two or more simple sentences.

Manju is an engineer **and** his brother is a doctor.

I am confident about our win, **but** we should be cautious.

Mrs Sharma owns the property, **so** she will decide how to divide it.

Complex Sentences

Complex sentences contain a dependent clause apart from an independent clause. The dependent clause may be an adjective clause or an adverb clause.

While the boss was away, Manish sneaked out of the office.

Although he puts a facade of politeness, Raghu is a conniving liar.

Omar invited us **because** it is his birthday.

Compound–Complex Sentence

Compound–complex sentences contain two independent clauses and at least one dependent clause.

After we finish painting, we can go to the mall **and** meet our friends.

While he was sleeping, his parents decorated the Christmas tree but forgot to place the presents.

Before you leave, place the books in the correct order **or else** there would be confusion.