

Sentence Types

There are different types of sentences. Some can include both independent and dependent clauses. Varying sentence types in your writing prevents repetition and improves flow.

Simple sentences contain one independent clause and do not contain any dependent clauses.

- The WRL Center offers tutoring.
- We can help you.
- We will talk about articles.
- The cafeteria serves delicious vegetable curry.

Compound sentences contain more than one independent clause but do not contain dependent clauses.

- The WRL Center has reading and writing tutoring every day, but the Center only has language tutoring three days a week.
- MC students can join an honors program like the Renaissance Scholars or they can join a group like Anime Club.
- You need your MC ID to sign up for tutoring, so make sure to bring it with you.
- The WEPA machines will accept credit cards, but it is better to use a WEPA card.

Complex sentences include one independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

- Until the glass wall was put in, the WRL Center was one big room.
- If you are more than five minutes late, you may lose your tutoring appointment.
- The tutor will fill out a report form when your appointment is finished.
- The computer lab is soundproof unless someone screams very loudly.

Complex-Compound sentences contain more than one independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

- The WRL Center offers 30-minute appointments, but the Center also has a quick question desk if you need help with something like citations or spelling.
- When you need help with MLA formatting, you can use the library's citation handouts or you can ask our tutors if you have further questions.
- Before your paper is due, come to the WRL Center and get help from a tutor.
- Our workshops cover a variety of topics that include punctuation, grammar, and essay editing, so there should be at least one that is useful to you.

Sentence Types Exercise

Label the following sentences as **simple**, **compound**, **complex**, or **complex-compound**.

1. There are some textbooks available in the WRL Center.
2. The WRL Center is closed on Sundays.
3. When you get your assignment, make an appointment with a tutor to plan your essay.
4. The computer lab is usually open to all students, but sometimes it is closed for a class or workshop.
5. You need to bring your MC ID to sign up for a tutoring appointment, and you should bring your professor's directions as well.
6. If you forget to bring your assignment, it may be difficult for the tutor to tell if you are following your professor's directions.
7. Although the WRL Center is closed on Sundays, we are open on Saturdays from 10 am-2 pm, and online workshops are available on Mondays.
8. Food is not allowed in the WRL Center, but drinks with lids are now permitted.

For More Help:

- See the **What Is a Sentence?** and **Combining Sentences** handouts.
- Make an appointment or drop in to see a tutor at the Writing, Reading, and Language Center, HS 150.