
Lesson: Sentence Structures and Functions

Learning Intention

Students will learn how to identify, describe, and use **different sentence structures and functions** to make their writing clear, varied, and effective.

Success Criteria

By the end of this lesson, I can:

- Identify and explain **different sentence structures** (simple, compound, complex, compound-complex).
 - Identify and explain **different sentence functions** (declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory).
 - Write my own sentences using a range of **structures** and **functions**.
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1. What Is a Sentence?

A **sentence** is a group of words that expresses a complete idea.

It usually includes:

- a **subject** (who or what the sentence is about), and
- a **predicate** (what the subject is doing or what is happening to it).

Example:

The cat slept on the mat.

(Subject = The cat; Predicate = slept on the mat)

2. Sentence Structures

Type of Sentence	Description	Example
Simple Sentence	One complete idea (one independent clause).	The boy ran.
Compound Sentence	Two complete ideas joined by a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).	The boy ran, and the girl laughed.
Complex Sentence	A main idea joined to a dependent clause using a subordinating conjunction (because, when, if, although, since).	The boy ran because he was late.
Compound-Complex Sentence	Two or more main ideas plus a dependent clause.	The boy ran, and the girl laughed when the bell rang.

3. Sentence Functions

Function	Purpose	Example
Declarative	Makes a statement.	I like reading books.
Interrogative	Asks a question.	Do you like reading books?
Imperative	Gives a command or instruction.	Read this book carefully.
Exclamatory	Expresses strong emotion or surprise.	What an incredible story!

4. Guided Practice

◆ Activity 1: Identify the Structure

Instructions: Label each sentence as **Simple**, **Compound**, **Complex**, or **Compound-Complex**.

- I enjoy listening to music.
Type: _____
- I wanted to play soccer, but it started to rain.
Type: _____
- When I finished my homework, I watched a movie.
Type: _____
- The students were laughing, and the teacher smiled because they were happy.
Type: _____
- The bell rang loudly.
Type: _____

6. We missed the bus, yet we arrived on time.
Type: _____
 7. Although it was raining, we went for a walk.
Type: _____
 8. The teacher spoke slowly, and the students listened carefully while taking notes.
Type: _____
 9. I read the book before I watched the movie.
Type: _____
 10. My friends were talking, but I was reading because I had an exam.
Type: _____
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◆ **Activity 2: Identify the Function**

Instructions: Label each sentence as **Declarative**, **Interrogative**, **Imperative**, or **Exclamatory**.

1. Please sit down quietly.
Function: _____
 2. How long will this lesson take?
Function: _____
 3. I love learning new words.
Function: _____
 4. What a fantastic day we had!
Function: _____
 5. Be careful when crossing the road.
Function: _____
 6. The sky is filled with stars tonight.
Function: _____
 7. Have you finished your homework yet?
Function: _____
 8. Wow, that was the best cake I've ever tasted!
Function: _____
 9. Don't forget to write your name at the top of the page.
Function: _____
 10. She enjoys going to the library on weekends.
Function: _____
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◆ **Activity 3: Combine Ideas**

Instructions: Use conjunctions from the **Word Bank** to join the simple sentences into **compound** or **complex** sentences.

Word Bank:

and but because although since when before while as yet unless if

Example:

I was tired. I finished my homework.

I finished my homework **although** I was tired.

1. The students were laughing. The teacher smiled.

2. I wanted to go swimming. It was too cold.

3. She stayed home. She was not feeling well.

4. He reads books. He enjoys learning about history.

5. We played games. We waited for the bus.

6. I opened the window. The room was hot.

7. I will bring the cake. You make the tea.

8. He missed the train. He was running late for work.

9. You must hurry. The bus will leave without you.

10. The phone rang. I was cooking dinner.

 **5. Independent Practice**

◆ **Activity 4: Write Your Own**

Instructions: Write your own examples of each type of sentence below.

Sentence Type **Your Example**

Simple Sentence	<hr/> <hr/>
Compound Sentence	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Complex Sentence	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Compound-Complex Sentence	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

◆ **Activity 5: Sentence Functions in Discussion Writing**

Instructions: Rewrite this short paragraph using a mix of **sentence functions** to make it sound more interesting and persuasive.

Many students think homework is unnecessary. Others believe it helps them learn. Teachers say it builds responsibility.

✔ Use at least **one** of each:

- Declarative sentence
- Interrogative sentence
- Imperative sentence
- Exclamatory sentence

Write your improved paragraph here:

6. Reflection

Answer in full sentences.

1. What is the difference between a simple and a complex sentence?

2. Why is it important to use a range of sentence structures?





3. Which type of sentence do you find easiest to write? Why?

4. How can using different sentence functions make your writing more powerful?

5. Which type of sentence would be most effective in a discussion and why?

7. Extension Activities

Choose one or more:

-  Create a **poster** showing all four sentence types and functions, with examples and illustrations.
-  Write a **short dialogue** that uses all sentence functions (Declarative, Interrogative, Imperative, Exclamatory).
-  Rewrite one of your previous paragraphs to include **at least one of each structure**.
-  Challenge: Write a **mini discussion paragraph** about whether technology helps or harms communication, using at least **six different sentence structures and functions**.
