



# Simple, Complex, and Compound Sentences

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Language Arts  
Grades 6-8



## Introduction

Students will list the elements of simple, complex, and compound sentences in a double t-chart. Using that information, students will create two examples of each sentence type while in small groups. To display their individual knowledge of the topic at hand, students will create cartoon strips. Each picture on the cartoon strip will be captioned with either a simple, complex, or compound sentence.

## Learning Objectives

- Students will create examples of simple, complex, and compound sentences.

## Materials Needed

- Journals or paper
- Blank sheet of paper
- Colored pencils, markers, crayons, etc.

## Procedure

1. Students will create a double t-chart. Students should label each column of the chart as simple, complex, and compound. Students should complete the chart by listing the elements of each type of sentence. (This may be completed as a class, individually, or in small groups depending on prior student knowledge, etc.)
2. Divide the class into small groups. Each group should have no more than 4 members. Ask groups to create two examples of each sentence type. These newly constructed sentences should be written on each student's t-chart under the appropriate column. Groups should be given 5-10 minutes to complete this activity.
3. Students will now practice constructing simple, complex, and compound sentences alone. Using a sheet of paper, students will create a cartoon strip consisting of 6 pictures. The cartoon strip must tell a short story. For each picture on the cartoon strip, a caption must be included in the form of either a simple, complex, or compound sentence. Each sentence type must be used at least once in the cartoon strip. The subject of the cartoon strip is entirely up to the student, and pictures must be neat but do not have to be elaborate.

**Extension:** Students may pair and share cartoon strips with others.

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## Evaluation

Student cartoon strips should be evaluated for the following:

- Correct use of simple, complex, and compound sentences
- Simple, complex, and compound sentences are **each** used at least once
- Pictures and captions are neat and legible
- Sentences flow appropriately to tell a short story
- All pictures include a caption in sentence form