

Four Types of Sentence Structures:

Simple:

Has one independent clause and no subordinate clauses.

Ex: Unlike many other languages, the English alphabet has twenty-six letters to represent the sounds of its words.

Compound:

Has two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

Alphabet comes from alpha and bet; these are the names of the first two letters in the Greek alphabet.

Complex:

Has one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.

The Cyrillic alphabet, which is the writing system for Russian, has thirty one characters.

Compound-Complex:

Has two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

Sequoyah, who lived from 1766 to 1843, created a writing system, and he taught it to other Cherokee.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD by Harper Lee – Grammar and Style

EXERCISE 5 COMPLEMENTS

- ___ 15. Jem's mind was occupied mostly with the vital statistics of every college football player in the nation.
- ___ 16. "Mrs. Dubose was a morphine addict," said Atticus.
- ___ 17. I brought him back some milk and half a pan of corn bread left over from supper.
- ___ 18. He had taken thirteen dollars from his mother's purse, caught the nine o'clock from Meridian and got off at Maycomb Junction.
- ___ 19. We streaked across the square, across the street, until we were in the shelter of the Jitney Jungle door.
- ___ 20. As they passed under a streetlight, Atticus reached out and massaged Jem's hair, his one gesture of affection.
- ___ 21. Children who slipped out at night were a disgrace to the family.
- ___ 22. "Mr. Cunningham was part of a mob last night, but he was still a man."
- ___ 23. Every town the size of Maycomb had families like the Ewells.
- ___ 24. Mollified, Mayella gave Atticus a final terrified glance and said to Mr. Gilmer, "Well sir, I was on the porch and – and he came along and, you see, there was this old chiffarobe in the yard Papa'd brought in to chop up for kindlin' . . ."
- ___ 25. "As you grow older, you'll see white men cheat black men every day of your life, but let me tell you something and don't you forget it – whenever a white man does that to a black man, no matter who he is, how rich he is, or how fine a family he comes from, that white man is trash."

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EXERCISE 4 SIMPLE, COMPOUND, AND COMPLEX SENTENCES

Label each of the following sentences S for simple, C for compound, CX for complex, or CC for compound complex.

- ___1. When my father was admitted to the bar, he returned to Maycomb and began his practice.
- ___2. Atticus's office in the courthouse contained little more than a hat rack, a spittoon, a checkerboard and an unsullied Code of Alabama.
- ___3. His first two clients were the last two persons hanged in the Maycomb County jail.
- ___4. They ambled across the square, shuffled in and out of the stores around it, took their time about everything.
- ___5. Dill blushed and Jem told me to hush, a sure sign that Dill had been studied and found acceptable.
- ___6. But by the end of August our repertoire was vapid from countless reproductions, and it was then that Dill gave us the idea of making Boo Radley come out.
- ___7. My memory came alive to see Mrs. Radley occasionally open the front door, walk to the edge of the porch, and pour water on her cannas.
- ___8. At last the sawhorses were taken away, and we stood watching from the front porch when Mr. Radley made his final journey past our house.
- ___9. We looked at her in surprise, for Calpurnia rarely commented on the ways of white people.
- ___10. We left the corner, crossed the side street that ran in front of the Radley house, and stopped at the gate.
- ___11. Jem threw open the gate and sped to the side of the house, slapped it with his palm and ran back past us, not waiting to see if his foray was successful.
- ___12. A storm of laughter broke loose when it finally occurred to the class that Miss Caroline had whipped me.
- ___13. He waited until he was sure she was crying, then he shuffled out of the building.