

Name _____

Compound and Complex Sentences

A **simple sentence** has a complete subject and a complete predicate.

The clouds gathered quickly.

A **compound sentence** has two or more simple sentences joined by a comma and a conjunction such as *and*, *but*, or *or*.

The clouds gathered quickly, and the leaves rustled in the wind.

A **complex sentence** has one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.

Although it was sunny just a moment ago, the clouds gathered quickly.

A **compound-complex sentence** has more than one independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

Although it was sunny just a moment ago, the clouds gathered quickly, and the leaves rustled in the wind.

Directions Identify each sentence as *simple*, *compound*, *complex*, or *compound-complex*.

1. The forest ranger is speaking at my school, and I can't wait to hear him. _____
2. When it rains, it pours. _____
3. When they got back from the boat tour, Donna took a nap, and Terry read the paper.

4. Paul looked up at the tree, and he saw a huge fern. _____
5. Many species of plants and animals live in the rain forest. _____
6. Although I have a map, I can't find the camp. _____

Directions Complete each compound sentence with the conjunction *and*, *but*, or *or*.

7. She loved to hike, _____ she loved to camp.
8. Some animals live among the leaves, _____ some live on the tree trunks.
9. We must protect the rain forests, _____ they will disappear.
10. Larry loved the rain, _____ Darla did not.
11. Forest fires are common, _____ they endanger the rain forest.
12. You need to hurry, _____ I'll leave you behind.



Home Activity Your child learned about compound and complex sentences. Have your child tell you what compound and complex sentences are. Then ask your child to find one example of each kind of sentence in a magazine article.

Name _____

Compound and Complex Sentences

Directions Join each pair of simple sentences to make a compound sentence. Use a comma and a conjunction such as *and*, *but*, or *or*.

1. Water from the trees creates clouds.
The water in the clouds falls back as rain.

2. Shut the window.
The basement might flood.

3. Mining is an important industry in the area.
It has damaged the rain forest.

4. The insect might be harmless.
We decided not to touch it.

Directions Add an independent clause to each dependent clause to make a complex sentence.

5. Although we could not see them, _____

6. When the medicine arrived, _____

7. While Jack slept, _____

8. After we ate dinner at the campsite, _____



Home Activity Your child learned how to use compound and complex sentences in writing. Have your child choose a simple sentence from a book and rewrite it first to make a compound sentence and then to make a complex sentence.

Name _____

Compound and Complex Sentences

Directions Identify each sentence as *simple*, *compound*, *complex*, or *compound-complex*.

1. The chameleon scurried up the tree and disappeared into a hole.

2. Before he knew it, dinner was ready, and everyone was waiting for him.

3. Tropical rain forests are valuable, but they are disappearing rapidly.

Directions Complete each compound sentence with the conjunction *and*, *but*, or *or*.

4. We could hear the waterfall in the distance, _____ it sounded very loud.

5. I stumbled over a tree root, _____ I didn't lose my balance.

6. Don't lose sight of the group, _____ you may get lost.

7. The toucan's bill is very large, _____ it is not heavy.

Directions Underline the dependent clause in each complex sentence.

8. I will leave for the campsite at six unless I hear from you.

9. After he stalked his prey, the jaguar sat and waited.

10. Whenever the forest ranger called the campers on his cell phone, he got a busy signal.

11. Toucans are hard to overlook in the rain forest because they have brightly colored feathers.

12. Although he left for Brazil on Tuesday, he did not arrive until Thursday.



Home Activity Your child reviewed complex and compound sentences. Give your child a simple sentence, such as *Our dinner is ready*. Ask your child to make the sentence into a compound sentence and then into a complex sentence.