

Editing a Text

Different types of sentences

In this lesson, we learn what a sentence is and how to differentiate between different types of sentences.

Outcomes

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- construct complete sentences
- identify different sentence types
- correct incomplete sentences

Curriculum Links

LO 3: Writing and Presenting

- reflect on, and evaluate own work, considering the opinion of others, and present final product.

LO 4: Language

- use structurally sound sentences in a meaningful and functional manner

Lesson Notes

A sentence is a complete idea, expressed in words.

Read the following sentence to see what is meant by a complete idea.

I got into trouble at school for not doing my homework.

This sentence can be divided into two separate parts:

I got into trouble at school AND for not doing my homework

- The first part of the sentence describes the situation, while the second part gives the reason for the situation.
- *I got into trouble at school* is a complete idea that can be defined as a complete sentence.
- The second part of the idea, *for not doing my homework*, on its own, would seem incomplete. The second part of this sentence is interesting – it expresses an explanation – but it's not absolutely necessary for a complete sentence to exist.
- For a sentence to be complete, it has to have:
 - a subject – something / someone doing the action
 - a verb - something to describe action, or a state of existence.

Different types of sentences:

Sentence type and example	Explanation
The simple sentence: <i>He enjoys music.</i>	All that is required for a simple sentence is ONE verb, <i>enjoys</i> , and ONE subject, <i>he</i> .
The compound sentence: <i>He enjoys music and he watches TV.</i>	Here, two or more complete ideas are joined – each idea can stand independently. A compound sentence, then, contains more than one equally important idea linked by 'and', 'but', 'however', 'therefore' and 'or'.
The complex sentence: <i>He is learning to play the guitar because he enjoys music.</i>	In this type of sentence a main idea is stated, and then reasons, examples, or descriptions are included. At least two verbs are necessary, as well as some clues about place, time, or manner. The conjunction <i>because</i> shows where the reason starts.
The compound-complex sentence: <i>He is learning to play the guitar and he is taking singing lessons at a Music Academy because he enjoys music.</i>	Compound-complex sentences have more than one main idea and additional information about at least one main idea.

TASK

Correct these sentences by either adding a verb or a conjunction to them:

1. Put it on the table, it belongs there.
2. You, away now!
3. It wasn't her fault, she cannot be blamed.
4. Who, him?