Grades 4-7

64 cards for working with simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Sentence Types Task Cards Double Set

✓ Addresses CCSS ELA-Literacy 5.1
✓ Includes posters and handouts
✓ Recording sheets and answer keys provided
This is a double set of task cards for helping students understand three types of sentences: simple, compound, and complex. The first 32 cards are multiple choice and focus on identifying types of sentences. The second set (also 32 cards) requires students to work with the three types of sentences; adding or taking away phrases to change the sentence type, or in some cases, combining sentences or separating them. Students will need to be familiar with independent and dependent clauses, and conjunctions before working with these cards.

Student answer sheets are provided for both sets as well as answer keys. There are also Challenge Cards that can be used with any other card to extend the activity. In addition, a student handout and three posters are included as reminders for your students. These task cards are perfect for test prep and will work well at literacy centers, stations, for partner work, or with the whole class using a game like Scoot.

These cards will look best in color, but will also print out fine in grayscale. Simply print and cut along the guidelines. Laminate and use them again and again. Alternatively, you could print on cardstock. It works well to keep them in a baggie. Another option is to hole-punch a corner of each card and put them all on a ring.

Fabulous pencil graphics are from Krista Walden at Creative Clips.
Common Core Standards

This product addresses the following Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1f** Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.2c** Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.3a** Expand, combine, and reduce sentences for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.1a** Explain the function of conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections in general and their function in particular sentences.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.3a** Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1a** Explain the function of phrases and clauses in general and their function in specific sentences.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1b** Choose among simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to signal differing relationships among ideas.

There are different rules for reading, for thinking, and for talking. Writing blends all three of them.

- Mason Cooley
## Sentence Types

### Simple Sentence
- Contains a subject and a predicate
- Expresses a complete thought.

**Examples:**
- The boys went to the park.
- We like pizza.

**Tip:**
A simple sentence is also called an independent clause.

### Compound Sentence
- Contains two or more independent clauses.
- Clauses are joined by a coordinating conjunction.

**Examples:**
- The boys went to the park, but they did not go to the zoo.
- We like pizza, and we like spaghetti.

**Tip:**
Look for these conjunctions: *for, and, nor, but, or, yet.*

### Complex Sentence
- Contains an independent clause and a dependent clause.
- Dependent clause begins with a subordinating conjunction.

**Examples:**
- Because the boys went to the park, they did not go to the zoo.
- The boys did not go to the zoo because they went to the park.

**Tip:**
Look for these subordinating conjunctions: *after, before, because, although, when, since, if, whenever, unless, while, so that, even though, wherever.*
Simple Sentence

- Contains a subject and a predicate
- Expresses a complete thought.

Example: The boys went to the park.

Tip: a simple sentence is also called an independent clause.
Compound Sentence

- Contains two or more independent clauses
- Clauses are joined by a coordinating conjunction.

Example: The boys went to the park, but they did not go to the zoo.

Tip: Look for these conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet.
Complex Sentence

- Contains an independent clause and a dependent clause.
- The dependent clause begins with a subordinating conjunction.

Example: Because the boys went to the park, they did not go to the zoo.

The boys did not go to the zoo because they went to the park.

Tip: Look for these subordinating conjunctions: after, before, because, although, when, since, if, whenever, unless, while, so that, even though.
Which type of sentence is this?

We went to the park, but we didn’t eat lunch there.

a. simple  
   b. compound  
   c. complex

The kitten was warm and soft.

a. simple  
   b. compound  
   c. complex

I forgot my jacket, so I stayed inside at recess.

a. simple  
   b. compound  
   c. complex

Ana didn’t come to school today because she is sick.

a. simple  
   b. compound  
   c. complex
Which type of sentence is this?

The boys built a fort in the backyard.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

Since you’ve already seen the movie, we’ll go without you.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

I want to wear my blue shirt with the yellow and green stripes.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

Do you like to play soccer, or do you prefer baseball?

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex
9. Which type of sentence is this?

Tasha writes poems, and she plays the piano.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

10. Which type of sentence is this?

We should eat dinner before we go to the party.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

11. Which type of sentence is this?

I gave my sister three cupcakes and a cookie.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

12. Which type of sentence is this?

Emily had a sandwich, an apple, and two cookies in her lunch today.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex
Which type of sentence is this?

I like tulips, and I like roses.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

I like tulips and roses.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

Since you like tulips, I didn’t get any roses.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

I didn’t get any roses since you like tulips.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex
Which type of sentence is this?

Let’s make brownies after dinner tonight.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Amber took the math test, but she didn’t do very well.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

We played outside all day because it was sunny.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

No one wanted to take the garbage out.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex
Lauren loves to read. She frequently spends her Saturday afternoons curled up with a book.

The word frequently means:
a. never
b. often
c. sometimes

Which type of sentence is this?
The museum was closed, so we went to the zoo instead.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?
Andy made extra money mowing lawns.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?
If you want to go to the movies, we need to leave now.

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?
Lucy, don’t forget to do the dishes!

a. simple
b. compound
c. complex
Which type of sentence is this?

Get your milk before you get your silverware.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

The brown dog with the red collar chased the ball.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

Before you take the test, remember to sharpen your pencil.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

Sammy is a great writer, but his spelling is terrible!

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex
Which type of sentence is this?

Be sure to turn off the lights when you leave the room.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

My Grandma and Grandpa have three black cats and a little dog.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

Let’s play Checkers and Monopoly.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex

Which type of sentence is this?

We went hiking in the woods, and then we ate lunch.

a. simple  
b. compound  
c. complex
## Sentence Types Answer Sheet

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Check your work!

**Sentence Types Answer Sheet (Set 1)**

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**Challenge Card**

If the sentence on the card is a simple sentence, add a phrase to make it a compound or complex sentence.

If the sentence on the card is a compound or complex sentence, take away a phrase to make it a simple sentence.
1. Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.
   
   I like pizza.
   I like spaghetti.

2. Add an independent clause to make this a complex sentence.
   
   After we ate dinner, ____________.

3. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence.
   
   _______________, so
   we got vanilla.

4. Make this compound sentence into two simple sentences.
   
   I asked my sister for a cookie, but she didn’t give me one.
5. Add a dependent clause to make this a complex sentence.

Please get me an apple ___________________.

6. Add a coordinating conjunction and an independent clause to make compound sentence.

We went to the zoo, _____________________.

7. Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.

She wanted salad.
She didn’t want bread.

8. Take away the dependent clause to make this a simple sentence.

After you open your presents, we can have cake.
9. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence.

_________________, but we couldn’t find you.

10. Add a dependent clause to make this a complex sentence.

__________________, I’m going to read a book.

11. Add a coordinating conjunction and an independent clause to make a compound sentence.

We went to the beach, ____________

12. Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.

Do like the blue one? Do you prefer the red one?
13 Make this compound sentence into two simple sentences.
I am good at math, and I am also good at spelling.

14 Take away the dependent clause to make this a simple sentence.
We are going to skip the movie because it is so late.

15 Add an independent clause to make compound sentence.
__________________ so
she didn’t come to school.

16 Make this compound sentence into two simple sentences.
I did my homework, so I can watch TV.
17. Add an independent clause to make this a complex sentence.

When you finish that math problem, ______ _________.

18. Add a dependent clause to make this a complex sentence.

______________, we’ll play inside.

19. Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.

I like baseball.
I don’t like soccer.

20. Take away the dependent clause to make this a simple sentence.

Although no one saw Kyle take the pencil, he still felt guilty.
Lauren loves to read. She frequently spends her Saturday afternoons curled up with a book.

The word frequently means:

a. never
b. often
c. sometimes

1. Add an independent clause to make a compound sentence.

__________________ yet

it didn’t rain.

21

2. Add a dependent clause to make this a complex sentence.

__________________, I put them

neatly in my drawers.

22

3. Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.

Susan did the dishes.
She did the laundry.

23

4. Take away the dependent clause to make this a simple sentence.

Sasha put on her slippers before she went downstairs.

24
25 Add an independent clause to make this a complex sentence.

________________________
whenever you ride your bike.

26 Make this compound sentence into two simple sentences.

Kara lived in Los Angeles, yet she had never been to Disneyland.

27 Add a dependent clause to make this a complex sentence.

______________________, you need to put on sunscreen.

28 Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.

Carlos went to the library. He didn’t go to the zoo.
29. Make these two simple sentences into one compound sentence.

We saw the lions.
We saw the zebras.

30. Take away the dependent clause to make this a simple sentence.

You can have dessert if you eat your vegetables.

31. Add a dependent clause to make this a complex sentence.

We were late _________

32. Add an independent clause to make this a complex sentence.

Even though you can run fast ______________.
Sentence Types Task Cards

Set 2

Challenge Card 1
Underline independent clauses once.
Underline dependent clauses twice.

Challenge Card 2
Circle the simple subject of the sentence you wrote.
Underline the simple predicate.

Challenge Card 3
Add a prepositional phrase to each of your answers.
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| 16. |
| 1. I like pizza and I like spaghetti | 17. When you finish that math problem, you can turn in your paper. |
| 2. After we ate dinner, we played Checkers. | 18. Since it is raining out, we’ll play inside. |
| 3. They were out of chocolate, so we go vanilla. | 19. I like baseball, but I don’t like soccer. |
| 4. I asked my sister for a cookie. She didn’t give me one. | 20. He still felt guilty. |
| 5. Please get me an apple when you go to the kitchen. | 21. The sky was cloudy, yet it didn’t rain. |
| 6. We went to the zoo, but we didn’t see the elephants. | 22. After I fold my shirts, I put them neatly in my drawer. |
| 7. She wanted salad but she didn’t want bread. | 23. Susan did the dishes, and she did the laundry. |
| 8. We can have cake. | 24. Sasha put on her slippers. |
| 9. We looked everywhere, but we couldn’t find you. | 25. Be sure to wear your helmet whenever you ride your bike. |
| 10. After I do my homework, I’m going to read a book. | 26. Kara lived in Los Angeles. She had never been to Disneyland. |
| 11. We went to the beach, and we swam in the ocean. | 27. Before you go outside, you need to put on sunscreen. |
| 12. Do you like the blue one, or do you prefer the red one? | 28. Carlos went to the library, but he didn’t go to the zoo. |
| 13. I am good at math. I am also good at spelling. | 29. We were late because there was a lot of traffic. |
| 14. We are going to skip the movie. | 30. You can have dessert. |
| 15. She was feeling sick, so she didn’t come to school. | 31. We saw the lions and we saw the zebras. |
| 16. I did my homework. I can watch TV. | 32. Even though you can run fast, I can run faster. |
Thank you so much for downloading this product! You can get more Task Cards for a variety of subjects here: http://bit.ly/sZYtu1

You may also want to check out:

- ready-to-use
- highly rated
- Focused on higher level thinking skills