

THE BASICS

Sentence structures add variety, interest, and impact to a text. Each sentence type is made of phrases and clauses. Clauses are groups of words that contain at least a subject and a verb.

Types of Clauses

Types	Structure	Example
Independent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● one subject● one predicate● complete thought that can stand alone as a sentence	I sold a bike to my brother.
Dependent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● has a subject and a verb● incomplete thought that cannot stand alone as a sentence	Before I sold a bike to my brother (<i>what happened?</i>)

Types of Sentences

Types	Structure	Example
Simple	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● has one independent clause	I sold a bike to my brother
Compound	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● has two independent clauses<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ two subjects○ two predicates○ clauses joined by a comma and conjunction	I sold a bike to my brother, and I made a good deal.
Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● has an independent clause + dependent clause(s)	Before I sell my bike, I need to clean it first. Except for my bike's wheels, most of the bike was clean because I had washed it.
Compound-Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● has at least two independent clauses● has one or two dependent clauses	Before I sell my bike, I need to clean it first, and I need to pay attention to the bike's wheels.