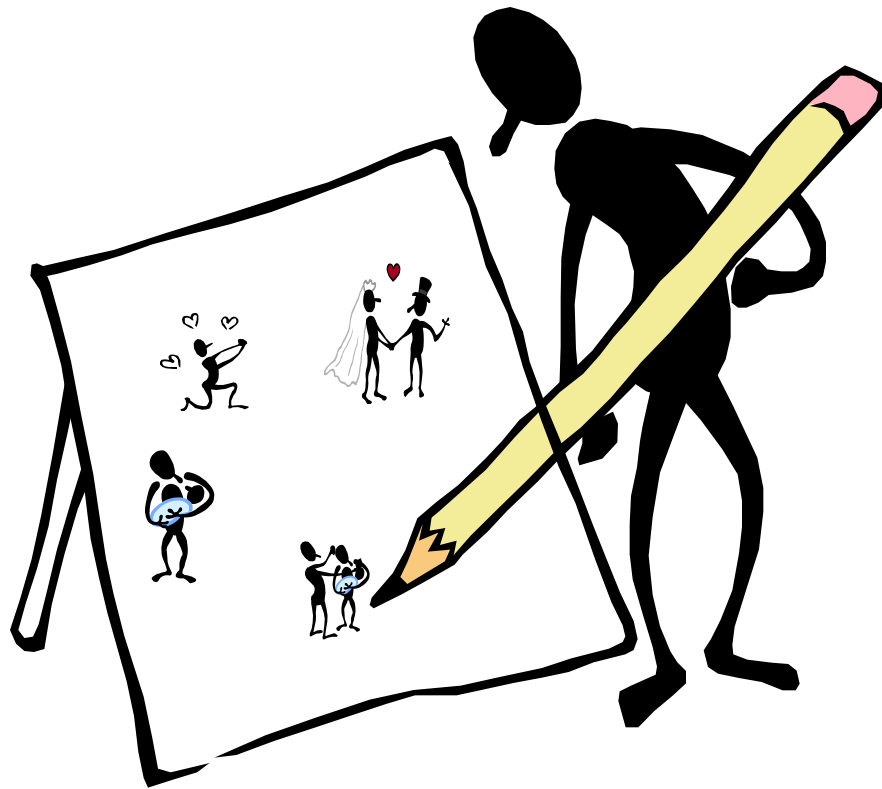


# Writing Complex Sentences

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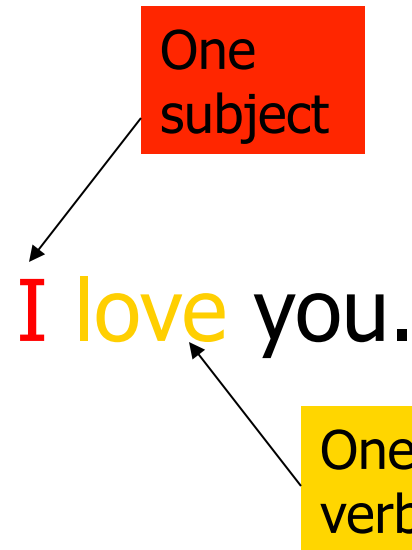


# #1: Simple Sentence

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- A **simple sentence** has one subject and one verb
  - I like to study grammar.
- A simple sentence is also called an **independent clause**.
- An **independent clause** ends with a period or semicolon.

# Simple sentence



Independent clause: only one subject and one verb



## #2: Compound Sentence

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- A **compound sentence** is made up of two or more simple sentences joined by one of the following:
  - A comma and one of the FANBOYS
    - I like to study grammar, **and** I love this class.
  - A semicolon
    - I like to study grammar; I love this class.
  - A semicolon and a transitional
    - I like to study grammar; **therefore**, I love this class.

# Compound sentence



Independent  
clause

I love you, and you love me.

Independent  
clause

Two independent clauses joined together



# #3: Complex Sentence

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- A **complex sentence** is a simple sentence (*independent clause*) to which a part of a sentence (*dependent clause*) has been added.
  - **Because I like to study grammar, I love this class.**
  - I love this class **because I like to study grammar.**

# Complex sentence



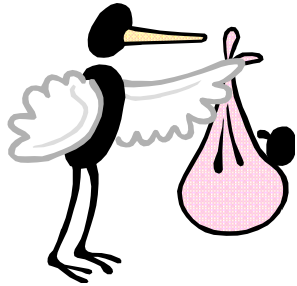
Dependent clause

Because you love me, I love you.

Independent clause

A **dependent** clause joined to an **independent** clause.  
(The dependent clause needs the rest of the sentence for support.)

# Dependent clause



Fragment!

Because you love me.

A **dependent clause** contains a subject and verb. It begins with a subordinating conjunction, and thus it does not express a completed thought. A dependent clause is also called a *subordinate* clause.



Dependent clauses, like babies, cannot stand alone.





## A Tip on Punctuation

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- Since dependent clauses are only part of a sentence, you can never connect them to another sentence with a semicolon. Semicolons are only used between two independent clauses.
  - I have loved you for years ; although I never admitted it. 
  - I have loved you for years, although I never admitted it. 



# Common Subordinating (Dependent) Conjunctions

after	even if	now that	that	where
although	even though	once	though	whereas
as	if	rather than	unless	wherever
as if	whenever	since	until	whether
because	in order	so that	when	which
before	that	than	in case	while



# #4: Compound/Complex Sentence

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- A compound/complex sentence is the last and most complicated type of sentence.
- It contains at least one dependent clause and at least two independent clauses.

# Compound complex sentence



Dependent clause


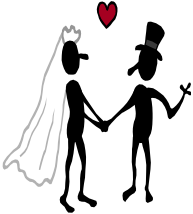


Because we are a family, I love you, and you love me.

2 independent clauses

A dependent clause added to two or more independent clauses



Since every sentence in English fits into one of these four categories,

<p>Simple</p>  A stick figure is kneeling on one knee, holding a heart in its hands. Three other hearts are floating in the air around the figure.	<p>Compound</p>  A stick figure in a white wedding dress and veil is holding hands with a stick figure in a black tuxedo and top hat. A red heart is floating above them.
<p>Complex</p>  A stick figure is holding a baby in its arms. The baby is represented by a blue circle with a white face.	<p>Compound/ complex</p>  A stick figure is holding a baby in its arms. Another stick figure is standing next to it, also holding a baby. Both babies are represented by blue circles with white faces.



# YOU NOW KNOW EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

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- To write anything you want to write
- Any way you want to write it
- And still get the punctuation right each time!

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

