Name:

Compound Sentences vs. Complex Sentences

A compound sentence has two independent clauses. It is like two complete sentences combined into one. A complex sentence has a subordinate clause and an independent clause. The subordinate clause modifies a word in the independent clause.

Read the following sentences. Check the box marked "compound" if it is a compound sentence. Check the box marked "complex" if it is a complex sentence.

1. Kerry called the fire department, and they arrived very quickly.	Compound	Complex
2. After he got home, my father read us a story.	Compound	Complex
3. We couldn't go to the beach because the car broke down.	Compound	Complex
4. The magician pulled a rabbit from his hat, but the audience did not applaud.	Compound	Complex
5. The baby elephant followed its mother because the lion was very close.	Compound	Complex
6. The forest was dark and gloomy, yet the children ran into it fearlessly.	Compound	Complex
7. The campers stayed in the tent while the cold rain fell.	Compound	Complex
8. Jane and Louise bought popcorn before the movie started.	Compound	Complex
9. Peter worked hard on his homework, yet he didn't finish it.	Compound	Complex
10. The baseball player ran to second base when the pitcher dropped the ball.	Compound	Complex