

ENGLISH – KEY INSTANT RECALL FACTS, SPRING

You need to know how to identify and create different sentence types: **Simple, Compound and Complex.**

Simple Sentences

A simple sentence contains a subject and a verb. It expresses a single complete thought that can stand on its own. A simple sentence does not necessarily have to be short. It can have adjectives and adverbs.

“He cried.”

“The bald, portly man cried bitterly and fell to his knees.”

Compound Sentences

A compound sentence has two independent/main clauses. An independent/main clause is a part of a sentence that can stand alone because it contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. These independent/main clauses are joined by a conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so = FANBOYS).

*“The shoplifter had stolen clothes, **so** he ran once he saw the police.”*

*“The man saw the ghost, **yet** he was not afraid.”*

Complex Sentences

A complex sentence is an independent/main clause joined by one or more dependent/subordinate clauses. A dependent/subordinate clause either lacks a subject or a verb or has both a subject and a verb that does not express a complete thought. A complex sentence always has a subordinating conjunction (as, because, since, after, although, when) or relative pronouns (who, that, which).

In the example below, the independent/main clause is underlined.

*“**After eating lunch, Tim went to the gym to exercise.**”*

*“**He climbed Everest **even though** he was afraid of heights.”***

*“**The woman, who was dressed in silver, ran through the crowds.**”*