iEnglish®

205

The Complex Sentence

2nd Edition

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iEnglish® 205
The Complex Sentence, 2nd Edition
by G. H. Wang and S. D. Wang

iEnglish® 200s
Grammar Series

iEnglish® 201: The Complete Sentence

iEnglish® 202: Verb Tense

iEnglish® 203: The Simple Sentence

iEnglish® 204: The Compound Sentence

iEnglish® 205: The Complex Sentence

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» focus your attention on one learning point at a time;

» think actively about what you are learning every step of the way;

» check whether your thinking or answers are right, immediately;

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The knowledge and skills that your students gain from these books may be reinforced through classroom reading and writing assignments. The books will also provide your students with the concepts and vocabulary that they need to allow you to render effective teacher feedback on writing assignments with greater efficiency.

How to Read This Book

3 Check your answer/s to questions here in the very next frame.

Read the **2** frames in order and answer the question/s.

Lesson 1:
Clauses

Which of the following groups of words is a sentence because it has both a subject and a predicate? _____

a. no stone unturned
b. divided cannot stand
c. time is money

1 Follow the frame numbers.

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Contents (Cont'd)

Welcome to *iEnglish® 205: The Complex Sentence,* the fifth book in the *iEnglish® 200*s series!

In this book, we will be looking at how complex sentences are written.

Let us begin, however, with a review of the complete sentence. If you are unable to answer the questions in this review, please read *iEnglish® 201: The Complete Sentence* and/or *iEnglish® 203: The Simple Sentence* before continuing with the rest of this book.

A sentence is composed of _____, which are the building blocks of the sentence.

A clause contains two essential parts: a **subject** and a **predicate.**

Put a vertical line (|) between the subject and predicate in this example:

**According to his enthusiasts, Nostradamus, a French Christian
Jew living in France during the 16th century, had made many
accurate forecasts, including the two
World Wars.**

According to his enthusiasts, Nostradamus,
a French Christian Jew living in France
during the 16th century, | had made many
accurate forecasts, including the two
World Wars.

Underscore the head noun of the subject with one line and the verb phrase of the predicate with two lines:

According to his enthusiasts, Nostradamus, a French Christian Jew living in France during the 16th century, | had made many accurate forecasts, including the two World Wars.

According to his enthusiasts, <u>Nostradamus</u>, a French Christian Jew living in France during the 16th century, | <u>had made</u> many accurate forecasts, including the two World Wars.

There are two kinds of clauses:

i.   the _____ clause;
ii. the _____ clause.

i. independent
ii. dependent
(or vice versa)

Lesson 1
Review of the
Complete Sentence

The following clauses are grouped into complete sentences. Write
"I" for independent clause and "D" for dependent clause, and then
read the complete sentences.

a. **Nostradamus was born on December 14, 1503, in St. Remy,
   France ___**

b. **after he received a medical degree in 1529 ___**

c. **he became a reknown physician to Charles IX during the bu-
   bonic plague ___**

d. **when he was in his late 40s ___**

e. **he frequently went into a trance* and had visions of the
   future ___**

*A trance is a deep meditative or sleep-like state.

a. I
b. D
c. I
d. D
e. I

Lesson 1
Review of the
Complete Sentence

1. Only the independent clause may be written as a complete sentence. *(True, False)*

2. A group of words without both a subject and a predicate can form a complete sentence. *(True, False)*

3. A dependent clause by itself can form a complete sentence. *(True, False)*

4. A group of words without an independent clause can be written as a complete sentence. *(True, False)*

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. False

1. A simple sentence consists of one independent clause. *(True, False)*

2. A group of words that does not contain an independent clause is a sentence fragment. *(True, False)*

3. A sentence fragment can be written as complete sentence. *(True, False)*

1. True
2. True
3. False

Not all of the following are complete sentences. In fact, there are only two complete sentences. Write "SS" for simple sentence and "SF" for sentence fragment, and then decide how they should be grouped to form two complete sentences.

a. **One of Nostradamus's first and most famous fulfilled prophecies. _____**

b. **Is the death of King Henry II. _____**

c. **Who was the king of England in Nostradamus's time. _____**

d. **He also wrote that a fire in London will occur "in the year 66." _____**

e. **The Great Fire of London that destroyed much of medieval London in September, 1666. _____**

One of Nostradamus's first and most famous fulfilled prophecies is the death of King Henry II, who was the king of England in Nostradamus's time.

He also wrote that a fire in London will occur "in the year 66,"the Great Fire of London that destroyed much of medieval London in September, 1666.

Lesson 1
Review of the
Complete Sentence

1. In active voice clauses, the subject *(is, is not)* the agent.

2. In passive voice clauses, the subject *(is, is not)* the agent.

1. is
2. is not

Underscore the passive verb phrases only with two lines:

a. Nostradamus is also credited with predicting the rise of Hitler and the assassination of Kennedy.

b. Nostradamus wrote four-line verses called "quatrains" that have been translated from French to English.

c. In some of Nostradamus's quatrains scrambled names or anagrams are used.

d. For example, an anagram was used to refer to Napoleon.

a. <u>is</u> also <u>credited</u>
b. <u>have been translated</u>
c. <u>are used</u>
d. <u>was used</u>

Circle one verb in each group that can form the *S+V* clause pattern.

a. *taste, appear, seem*

b. *begin, caught, feel*

c. *fall, be, describe*

a. appear
b. begin
c. fall

Circle one verb in each group that can form the *S+V+O* clause pattern.

a. *feel, go, offer*
b. *laugh, imagine, be*
c. *become, plan, rain*

a. offer
b. imagine
c. plan

Lesson 1
Review of the
Complete Sentence

Circle one verb in each group that can form the *S+V+C* clause pattern.

a. *receive, swim, taste*
b. *become, use, work*
c. *stand, look, suggest*

a. taste
b. become
c. look

Write one of the following clause patterns for each of the simple sentences below: *SV, SVO, SVC,* passive.

a. There are many Nostradamus quatrains referring to the French Revolution. _____

b. These predications about the French Revolution are said to provide proof of Nostradamus's prophetic abilities. _____

c. In one of his quatrains, Nostradamus referred to Louis Pasteur, the discoverer of the existence of microscopic germs, by the name "Pasteur." _____

d. He is also said to have referred to Charles de Gaulle by name in one of his quatrains. _____

a. SVC
b. passive
c. SVO
d. passive

Write one of the following clause patterns for each of the simple sentences below: *SV, SVO, SVC,* passive.

a. **Skeptics of Nostradamus criticize the extensive interpretations of his writings by the translators of his works. _____**

b. **Some skeptics hold to the alternative view of Nostradamus describing not future events but events of his own and earlier times. _____**

c. **Nostradamus was married twice, losing his first wife and two children to the plague. _____**

d. **He died on July 2, 1566. _____**

a. SVO
b. SVO
c. passive *(Marry is a tricky verb. It can be used in the SVO, SVC and passive patterns.)*
d. SV

Write out the direct object (DO) and indirect object (IO).

Nostradamus enthusiasts credit him with having predicted numerous important events in world history.

IO: _____

DO: _____

IO: him
DO: with having predicted numerous
important events in world history

Lesson 1
Review of the
Complete Sentence

While a simple sentence contains just one independent clause, a compound sentence contains at least two *(independent, dependent)* clauses, which are joined by a coordinating conjunction such as, *(if, because, so)*.

OK! Let's begin our first lesson on the complex sentence, *Lesson 2: The Complex Sentence Overview.* In this lesson, we're going to consider some of the advantages of writing complex sentences, and have a general look at how they are formed.

Predictions are that hydrogen cars that combine solar and electricity sources, are the future of transportation.

1. Put a vertical line between the subject and predicate of all clauses.
2. For the independent clause only, underline the head noun of the subject with one line and the verb phrase of the predicate with two lines.
3. This sentence contains *(one, two, three)* independent clause and *(one, two, three)* dependent clauses.

1. & 2.
Predictions | <u>are</u> that hydrogen cars that |
combine solar and electricity sources | are
the future of transportation.

3. one, two

Lesson 2
The Complex
Sentence Overview

<u>Predictions</u> | <u>are</u> that hydrogen cars that | combine solar and electricity sources | are the future of transportation.

1. Like *(simple, compound)* sentences, complex sentences contain more than one clause.

2. By contrast, though, complex sentences contain just *(one, two)* independent clause.

3. Complex sentences, however, may contain any number of *(independent, dependent)* clauses.

1. compound
2. one
3. dependent

Lesson 2
The Complex
Sentence Overview

There are two significant advantages to complex sentences. One is that we can strategically place the more important information in the independent clause and the less important information in the dependent clause.

In which of the following sentences is information about what the bomb killed treated as more important than information about the bomb itself? *(a, b)*

a. **The Allies dropped the first bomb on Berlin during World War II, and it killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.**

b. **The first bomb that the Allies dropped on Berlin during World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.**

In which sentence is information about the pregnant animals treated as more important than information about the bombs? *(a, b)*

a. When bombs started falling in Belgrade in 1999, most of the pregnant animals in the zoo delivered their young prematurely.

b. Bombs started falling in Belgrade in 1999, and most of the pregnant animals in the zoo delivered their young prematurely.

In this and the following frames, underline the independent clause containing the more important information.

Although Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) made the first sketches of a submarine, Cornelius van Drebbel, a Dutch inventor, was the first to build one in 1620.

Cornelius van Drebbel, a Dutch inventor,
was the first to build one in 1620

**A one-man, wooden submarine powered by hand-turned propel-
lers,* which was built in 1776 by the American David Bushnell
(1742-1824), was the first submarine used for military purposes.**

*A propeller is a device with blades that spin around, causing a boat or airplane to
 move.

A one-man, wooden submarine powered by hand-turned propellers . . . was the first submarine used for military purposes.

The first true submarines were built in the 1890s by rival inventors J. P. Holland and Simon Lake, who also invented torpedoes,* thereby introducing one of the most dangerous weapons in the world.

*A torpedo is a tube-shaped bomb that moves under water.

The first true submarines were built in the 1890s by rival inventors J. P. Holland and Simon Lake

Understanding complex sentences helps not only to improve your writing skills, but also your reading skills. This skill of identifying independent clauses can help when you are reading difficult academic texts, by allowing you to focus on the *(more important, less important)* information.

Lesson 2
The Complex
Sentence Overview

Another advantage of the complex sentence is that it allows us to create a tighter or more precise relationship between the ideas in the clauses.

In which sentence is there a more precise relationship between the two clauses, or a tighter relevance of the first clause to the second clause? *(a, b)*

a. **Thomas Edison | died in 1931, and he | held over 500 patents* for electric light, power, and batteries.**

b. **When Thomas Edison | died in 1931, he | held over 500 patents for electric light, power, and batteries.**

*A patent is the legal right to be the only producer and seller of a new product.

b

In which sentence is there a more obvious relationship between the two clauses? *(a, b)*

a. **In the 1860s, George Leclanche | invented the dry-cell battery, which | formed the basis for modern batteries.**

b. **In the 1860s, George Leclanche | invented the dry-cell battery; it | formed the basis for modern batteries.**

Lesson 2
The Complex Sentence Overview

Again, not only can this knowledge about complex sentences help you to write better, you may use it to strengthen your reading comprehension, by paying close attention to the r_____ between clauses.

A complex sentence is easy to form. Just combine one independent clause with a dependent clause.

Write "I" for independent clause and "D" for dependent clause. Then, write a complex sentence by combining the two clauses in the right order *with* by a comma. Don't forget your capitalization and other necessary punctuation.

a. **who also thought of the idea to use the @ sign to separate the name of the user from the name of the computer _____**

b. **the first e-mail was sent in 1972 by Ray Tomlinson _____**

_____
_____
_____

a. D
b. I

The first e-mail was sent in 1972 by Ray Tomlinson, who also thought of the idea to use the @ sign to separate the name of the user from the name of the computer.

Lesson 2
The Complex
Sentence Overview

Write "I" for independent clause and "D" for dependent clause. Then, write a complex sentence by combining the two clauses in the right order, this time *without* a comma between the clauses.

a. traffic lights were used ___

b. before the automobile was introduced ___

_____
_____
_____

a. I
b. D

Traffic lights were used before the automobile was introduced. *(If you reversed the order of the clauses, you'd need a comma.)*

Lesson 2
The Complex
Sentence Overview

There are three categories of dependent clauses that a complex sentence can contain:

i.   the **noun clause**
ii. the **adjective clause**
iii. the **adverb clause**

In the following lessons of this book, we will be looking at these categories of dependent clauses one after the other.

Let's begin our look at the first category of dependent clauses with *Lesson 3: Noun Clauses I:* That–*Clauses.*

The **noun clause** is a dependent clause that behaves like a noun.

Just like regular nouns, the noun clause may function as a subject or object. A noun clause is therefore often found to *embedded* in another clause as in the following example.

(What | does not kill me) | makes me stronger. (Goethe)

In this example, the embedded noun clause in parentheses is the *(subject, object)* of the independent clause.

End of Sample Lessons,

Thank you!

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