

Compound sentences vs. complex sentences

Grade 3 Sentences Worksheet

Determine if each sentence is complex or compound.

A compound sentence has two full sentences joined by for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

A complex sentence has one main thought with additional information added using words like because, though, before, after, although, while and once.

Sentences	Complex	Compound
1. It was getting dark outside, so they went back home.		✓
2. We ate sandwiches tonight because there were no eggs left.		
3. Once the paint dries, we can hang the picture.		
4. James plays videogames, and he is good at it.		
5. Before you fold your clothes, make sure they are dry.		
6. Stay out of the kitchen until it is dinnertime.		
7. They love ham, but they do not like pork chops.		
8. It is warm outside while the sun is up.		
9. Jenna wants to skate, but she is afraid to fall.		
10. Do you want to try painting, or do you prefer coloring?		
11. They put away their books because they had read them all.		
12. You seem tired, yet it is not even ten o'clock.		



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Answers

Sentences	Complex	Compound
1. It was getting dark outside, so they went back home.		✓
2. We ate sandwiches tonight because there were no eggs left.	✓	
3. Once the paint dries, we can hang the picture.	✓	
4. James plays videogames, and he is good at it.		✓
5. Before you fold your clothes, make sure they are dry.	✓	
6. Stay out of the kitchen until it is dinnertime.	✓	
7. They love ham, but they do not like pork chops.		✓
8. It is warm outside while the sun is up.	✓	
9. Jenna wants to skate, but she is afraid to fall.		✓
10. Do you want to try painting, or do you prefer coloring?		✓
11. They put away their books because they had read them all.	✓	
12. You seem tired, yet it is not even ten o'clock.		✓