

# POWER SENTENCES - USING COMPOUND SENTENCES

★ A **simple sentence** has one complete subject and one complete predicate.

EXAMPLES: *A pretty flower*                      *grows in the garden.*  
(complete subject)                      (complete predicate)

*Roses and tulips*                      *grow and bloom in the summer garden.*  
(complete subject)                      (complete predicate)

★ A **compound sentence** contains two or more simple sentences. Each simple sentence within a compound sentence is called an **independent clause**.

★ Compound sentences can be formed in three ways:

1) A compound sentence can be made by joining two independent clauses together using a **coordinating conjunction with a comma**. The coordinating conjunctions are **for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so** -- sometimes referred to as the **FANBOYS**.

EXAMPLES: Flowers are delicate, **and** they need tender care.  
(independent clause)                      (independent clause)

The sky was dark gray, **but** the garden still looked lovely.  
(independent clause)                      (independent clause)

2) A compound sentence can be made by joining two independent clauses together using a **semicolon -- ;**.

EXAMPLES: Roses are the stars of any garden; they come in hundreds of varieties.  
(independent clause)                      (independent clause)

3) A compound sentence can be made by joining two independent clauses together using a **semicolon, a conjunctive adverb, and a comma** all together.

EXAMPLES: The tulips looked wonderful this year; **in fact**, they won a ribbon at the fair.  
(independent clause)                      (independent clause)

I love working in the garden; **however**, I don't like to weed.  
(independent clause)                      (independent clause)

## CONJUNCTIVE ADVERBS:

- **To express a contrast:** *however, nevertheless, on the other hand*
- **To express a result:** *consequently, therefore, thus*
- **To express an alternative:** *otherwise, instead*
- **To express a time relationship:** *then, meanwhile*
- **To express closely related ideas:** *moreover, furthermore, in addition, in fact*
- **To introduce an example:** *for instance, for example*

# POWER SENTENCES - USING COMPLEX SENTENCES

★ A **complex sentence** has one *independent clause* and at least one *dependent clause*. An **independent clause** can stand alone as a complete sentence. A **dependent clause** cannot stand alone because it is only a sentence part, not a complete sentence. Dependent clauses must be linked to independent clauses for their full meaning.

★ Two types of dependent clauses are the **adjective clause** and the **adverb clause**.

1) An **adjective clause** is a sentence part that makes a statement about a person, place, or thing named in a sentence.

★ Adjective clauses usually begin with one of these *relative pronouns* -- **who**, **which**, or **whose**. They answer questions such as:

- What did the person, place or thing do? (*who, which*)
- What did the person, place, or thing have? (*whose*)

★ Adjective clauses occur between a subject and verb (*subject-verb split*), or at the end of a sentence (*closer*).

EXAMPLES: **Who:** The twins, who had finished their homework, were allowed to watch half an hour of TV. (*subject-verb split*)

**Which:** The man on the loudspeaker begins calling everyone over to the track for the first event, which is the 20-yard dash. (*closer*)

**Whose:** Little Jon, whose eyes were quicker than most, should have seen the hole, but all his attention was on the stars. (*subject-verb split*)

2) An **adverb clause** is a dependent clause that gives details about the main event in a sentence.

★ Adverb clauses usually begin with a **subordinating conjunction**. They answer questions such as:

- When did it happen? (*as, when, while, before, after, until*)
- Why did it happen? (*because, since*)
- How did it happen (*as if, as though, as long as, as soon as*)
- Under what conditions did it happen? (*if, although*)

★ Adverb clauses occur at the beginning of a sentence (*opener*), between a subject and verb (*subject-verb split*), or at the end of a sentence (*closer*). One comma is used for an opener, two for a subject-verb split, and usually none for a closer.

EXAMPLES: **Opener:** While she sat there, a fuzzy spider paced across the room.

**S-V Split:** Mrs. Rachel, before she had closed the door, had taken mental note of everything that was on that table.

**Closer:** Her voice softened as she looked at the sleepy little boy.

NOTE: Be careful not to confuse adverb clauses with prepositional phrases. Both can begin with the same words (*after, before, since, until, and as*). If the first word is removed and what remains is a complete sentence, then it's an adverb clause; however, if the first word is removed and a complete sentence does not result, it is a prepositional phrase.