Sentence Sort

Find out how two ideas fit together.

3.LF.30 "Manipulate words and/or phrases to create compound sentences, including coordinating conjunctions for, and, nor, but, or, yet, or so, and complex sentences to help build syntactic awareness and comprehension at the sentence level."

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMPOUND SENTENCE

A compound sentence joins two complete thoughts. A word such as and, but, or, yet, or so connects them.

The lantern glowed, yet the cave stayed dark.

COMPLEX SENTENCE

A complex sentence has one complete thought and one part that cannot stand alone. Words such as because, when, if, and although connect the parts.

Although the concert ended, the crowd cheered.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle COMPOUND or COMPLEX for each sentence; for Part 2, choose one item from each category and explain how you knew.

1.	Mia packed her bag, and Leo filled his bottle.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
2.	The path was muddy, but we kept walking.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
3.	Because the bell rang, the class lined up.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
4.	When the rain stopped, Sam opened his window.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
5.	I can draw a map, or you can write the clues.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
6.	If the seed gets water, it will grow.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
7.	Nora lost her pencil, so she borrowed one.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
8.	The puppy barked, and the kitten hid.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one item from each category and explain how you knew.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new compound sentence and one new complex sentence about a game.

COMPOUND _____

COMPLEX _____

CHALLENGE

Combine these thoughts into one complex sentence using because: The sidewalk was wet. It rained last night.

ANSWER KEY # Sentence Sort

GRADE 3 · 3.LF.30

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Mia packed her bag, and Leo filled his bottle.	**COMPOUND**	And joins two complete thoughts.
2	The path was muddy, but we kept walking.	**COMPOUND**	But joins two complete thoughts.
3	Because the bell rang, the class lined up.	**COMPLEX**	The part beginning with because cannot stand alone.
4	When the rain stopped, Sam opened his window.	**COMPLEX**	The part beginning with when cannot stand alone.
5	I can draw a map, or you can write the clues.	**COMPOUND**	Or joins two complete thoughts.
6	If the seed gets water, it will grow.	**COMPLEX**	The part beginning with if cannot stand alone.
7	Nora lost her pencil, so she borrowed one.	**COMPOUND**	So joins two complete thoughts.
8	The puppy barked, and the kitten hid.	**COMPOUND**	And joins two complete thoughts.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one item from each category and explain how you knew.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **COMPOUND**: We rolled the dice, and we moved our pieces.
- **COMPLEX**: When my turn ended, I passed the dice.

Challenge: The sidewalk was wet because it rained last night.

For Part 2, a student might explain that item 1 joins two complete thoughts with and, while item 3 begins with a because part that cannot stand alone.