

Sentence Switch Sort

Sort sentences by the number of complete thoughts.

4.LU.1.A "Produce, expand, and rearrange simple and compound sentences, including prepositional phrases, when speaking and writing."

NAME _____

DATE _____

SIMPLE SENTENCE

A simple sentence has one complete thought. It may include a prepositional phrase.

Behind the waterfall, tiny lizards rested.

COMPOUND SENTENCE

A compound sentence has two complete thoughts joined by a comma and a joining word, such as and, but, or so.

The violin hummed softly, and the audience listened.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle SIMPLE or COMPOUND for each sentence, then choose two items and explain what you noticed in each.

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. The puppy slept on the rug. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 2. The train stopped at the station. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 3. Leo opened the window, but cold air rushed inside. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 4. Before sunset, our neighbors watered the garden. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 5. The bell rang, so students hurried into class. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 6. We searched under the couch, but the missing sock was not there. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 7. During the parade, drums echoed down the street. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |
| 8. The ice melted, and a puddle formed near the door. | ☐ SIMPLE | ☐ COMPOUND |

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new SIMPLE sentence and one new COMPOUND sentence.

SIMPLE _____

COMPOUND _____

CHALLENGE

Write a COMPOUND sentence with a prepositional phrase in one complete thought.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The puppy slept on the rug.	SIMPLE	One complete thought. "On the rug" is a prepositional phrase.
2	The train stopped at the station.	SIMPLE	One complete thought. "At the station" is a prepositional phrase.
3	Leo opened the window, but cold air rushed inside.	COMPOUND	Two complete thoughts are joined by a comma and but.
4	Before sunset, our neighbors watered the garden.	SIMPLE	One complete thought. "Before sunset" is a prepositional phrase.
5	The bell rang, so students hurried into class.	COMPOUND	Two complete thoughts are joined by a comma and so.
6	We searched under the couch, but the missing sock was not there.	COMPOUND	Two complete thoughts are joined by a comma and but.
7	During the parade, drums echoed down the street.	SIMPLE	One complete thought. "During the parade" is a prepositional phrase.
8	The ice melted, and a puddle formed near the door.	COMPOUND	Two complete thoughts are joined by a comma and and.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **SIMPLE:** The robin perched on the fence.
- **COMPOUND:** The clouds moved away, and the moon appeared.

Challenge: After practice, Nora tied her shoes, and her brother closed the gate.

For Part 2, students should name the number of complete thoughts and, for a compound sentence, identify the comma and joining word. Accept varied correct sentences in Part 3 and the challenge.