# 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**

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

Behind the waterfall, tiny lizards rested.

**COMPOUND**

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.

**ANSWER KEY**

# Sentence Switch Sort

**GRADE 4 · 4.LU.1.A**

## 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.