Clause Pattern Sort

Sort the clause patterns that create variety.

9.LU.1.B "Craft and apply a variety of sentence structures to infuse sentence variety in writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMPOUND SENTENCE

A compound sentence has two independent clauses. The clauses are connected with a coordinating conjunction or a semicolon.

Dawn arrived; foxes vanished silently.

COMPLEX SENTENCE

A complex sentence has one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. A dependent clause cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.

Since midnight ended, owls called softly.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the tag that matches each sentence, then choose two numbered sentences and explain which clause pattern helped you sort them.

1.	Maya packed the maps, but Jordan carried the water.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
2.	Because the museum closed early, we changed our plans.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
3.	When the bell rang, students filled the hallway.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
4.	The engine sputtered, so the pilot checked the gauges.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
5.	I finished the sketch, and my sister framed it.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
6.	While rain tapped the roof, the campers played cards.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
7.	The crowd cheered, yet the referee waited.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX
8.	Nia planted basil, and Omar watered it.	COMPOUND	COMPLEX

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 compound sentence and one new complex sentence.

COMPOUND _____

COMPLEX _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-sentence mini-scene that includes one compound sentence and one complex sentence. Underline the joining word or clause marker in each.

ANSWER KEY

Clause Pattern Sort

GRADE 9 · 9.LU.1.B

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Maya packed the maps, but Jordan carried the water.	**COMPOUND**	Two independent clauses are joined by the coordinating conjunction but.
2	Because the museum closed early, we changed our plans.	**COMPLEX**	Because the museum closed early is a dependent clause, followed by an independent clause.
3	When the bell rang, students filled the hallway.	**COMPLEX**	When the bell rang is a dependent clause, and students filled the hallway is independent.
4	The engine sputtered, so the pilot checked the gauges.	**COMPOUND**	Two independent clauses are joined by so.
5	I finished the sketch, and my sister framed it.	**COMPOUND**	Two independent clauses are joined by and.
6	While rain tapped the roof, the campers played cards.	**COMPLEX**	While rain tapped the roof is a dependent clause, followed by an independent clause.
7	The crowd cheered, yet the referee waited.	**COMPOUND**	Two independent clauses are joined by yet.
8	Nia planted basil, and Omar watered it.	**COMPOUND**	Two independent clauses are joined by 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)

- **COMPOUND**: The violinist bowed; the audience listened.
- **COMPLEX**: After the glacier melted, wildflowers covered the valley.

Challenge: The gate creaked, and the dog barked. When the visitor stepped inside, the dog wagged its tail.

For Part 2, students should name the independent clauses in a compound sentence or identify the dependent and independent clauses in a complex sentence. Accept original Part 3 responses that use the required clause pattern correctly.