

1. **Independent Clause** - expresses a complete thought and has a subject and verb. It can be used alone as a simple sentence.

Examples: Mrs. Smith bakes wonderful pies.
During the rainstorm, the children were frightened by the thunder.

2. **Dependent Clause** – has a subject and verb but does not express a complete thought. It cannot be used as a simple sentence. A dependent clause is introduced by a dependent word (subordinating conjunction) such as although, because, if, until, when. As you read it, you can hear that it doesn't make a complete statement. It leaves you expecting something more.

Examples: After we finished the game
Since we finished the game

3. **Phrase** - consists of a group of related words in a sentence that do not contain a subject and a verb.

Examples: in large cities
to deliver the package

4. **Simple Sentence** - consists of one and only one independent clause.

Examples: John joined the Marines.
Since taking lessons last year, she enjoys playing the piano.

5. **Compound Sentence** - contains two or more simple sentences, joined by (a) a comma and a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS), (b) a semicolon, or (c) a semicolon with a transitional phrase and a comma.

Examples: He called the children to supper, but they could not hear him.
He called the children to supper; they could not hear him.
He called the children to supper; however, they could not hear him.

6. **Complex Sentence** - contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.

Example: Although it snowed, the schools were still opened.
After the storm savagely beat the area, many palms were broken while others emerged bare.

7. **Compound-Complex Sentence** – contains two or more independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.

Examples: The exam that I took was very difficult; consequently, I failed it.
Few people wanted to leave the party since they were having fun, but the hostess was getting tired.

SENTENCE ERRORS

1. **Fragment** – is an incomplete thought (or only part of a sentence).

Examples: When Bob flew his plane.
The car which was on sale in Stuart.

2. **Comma Splice** – is an error that occurs when only a comma is used by itself to join two separate sentences.

Examples: Tom ran to the store, he needed to buy shoes.
No one arrived, consequently, the teacher left.

3. **Fused** – is an error that occurs when two sentences are joined without any punctuation.

Examples: Tom ran to the store he needed to buy shoes.
The fifteenth of April is the income tax deadline consequently many people send in their returns on that date.