Simple & Compound Sentences

40 Task Cards Plus Grammar Posters

By Classroom Core

- Grades 6–8
- Aligned to CCSS
- 40 Task Cards
- Storage Case Template
- 3 Grammar Posters
- Student Recording Sheet
- Instructions & Answer Key

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Simple & Compound Sentences: 40 Task Cards Plus Grammar Posters

Introduction

Grammar Busters activities enable students to tackle difficult elements of grammar through hands-on practice. In this set, students practice finding subjects and verbs within sentences and combining simple sentences to form compound sentences.

What’s Included?

- **40 task cards** *(See page 8)*
  
  Print out the task cards and posters. You may want to use cardstock or laminate the cards for extended durability. Students use the task cards for identifying simple and compound sentences plus subjects and verbs in each sentence type. Progression is from simple to compound with a section for combining simple sentences to form compound sentences. Many students enjoy using the task cards with a partner as part of a class competition.

  If desired, copy the recording sheets *(page 18)* for students to use.

  **Teacher Tip:** Store your set of task cards with the build-your-own storage case template provided *(page 7)*. This is an organizational tool that you and your students will love!

  **Teacher Tip:** If you have an overhead projector or SmartBoard, consider displaying the sentences there and handing out the cards for more practice.

- **Posters** *(See page 4)*
  
  Print the three posters (Simple Sentences, Compound Sentences, and Coordinating Conjunctions) for your students, or post them on a wall or bulletin board for display.

- **Answer Key for Task Cards** *(See page 20)*
  
  All answers are included. You can guide students as they participate, or they can brush up on their skills by checking their own work independently.
Common Core State Standards

Activities in Simple & Compound Sentences: 40 Task Cards Plus Grammar Posters address the following Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.3a**: Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1a**: Explain the function of phrases and clauses in general and their function in specific sentences.

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1b**: Choose among simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to signal differing relationships among ideas.

- **Note**: According to CCSS guidelines, simple and compound sentences will likely need revisiting in grades 8 and beyond.

Note: For more information, visit www.teacherspayteachers.com/store/classroom-core.
Simple Sentences

A **simple sentence** (also called an **independent clause**) contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought.

Simple sentences have no dependent (subordinate) clauses.

- My *friend* has a beautiful fish.
  - SUBJECT: friend
  - VERB: has

- My *friend* and *I* both have fish.
  - SUBJECTS: friend, I
  - VERB: have

- My *friend* feeds and watches her fish.
  - SUBJECT: friend
  - VERBS: feeds, watches
Compound Sentences

A **compound sentence** contains two independent clauses usually joined by a comma and a conjunction. Compound sentences have no dependent (subordinate) clauses.

TIP: Use a semi-colon or a comma with a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS) to join two simple independent clauses.
Coordinating Conjunctions...

connect two similarly constructed words, phrases, or clauses

fan boys

for

and

nor

but

or

yet

so

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1. Print this page on heavy paper or cardstock. (You could also make the structure sturdy by printing it on regular paper and gluing the page to a file folder for reinforcement.)
2. Cut along outline, and then score or fold along dotted lines.
3. Fold flaps in and glue or tape in place.
   The case is large enough to store the 40 cards in this set when printed on cardstock or on standard paper and laminated.
1. **Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence:**

Computers and books were both available in the library.

2. **Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence:**

Ali and Mark flew to Australia three times in two years.

3. **Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence:**

This month’s newspaper clearly expressed a request for donations.

4. **Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence:**

In Seattle, Elliot often visits the beautiful public market.
5. Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence:

We congratulated the team on their amazing win.

6. Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence:

Where will the two boys find their school supplies?

7. Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence:

My favorite fruits are oranges and grapes, but my friend loves pineapples.

8. Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence:

Olive should wash the dishes and clean the house, yet she chooses to play instead.
9. Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence:
The field was green and lush, yet the children could not find any flowers to pick.

10. Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence:
The wind howled, and the storm gathered strength.

11. Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence:
The summer sun was warm, so the group spent the day at the beach.

12. Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence:
You could take the first bus out of town, or you could walk to the train stop.
13. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
I can't believe that you and Alex found the coffee shop without directions.

14. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
Cats often hunt at night and sometimes during the day.

15. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
We traveled to Belgium last summer and ate Belgian waffles.

16. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
We studied the Civil War and watched a war reenactment on a field trip.
17. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
We studied World War II, and we visited a war museum.

18. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
We read about Greek mythology and created our own Greek myth.

19. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
Our friends are supportive during stressful times and often help us solve our problems.

20. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
Liam wrote about his favorite time period in history and found excellent research information on the school database.
21. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

Lizzie wrote about her favorite author, and she found lots of information in the downtown library.

22. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

Near our school, we found graffiti on buildings, but we left it on the walls.

23. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

My favorite flavor is chocolate, but I sometimes eat vanilla ice cream.

24. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

He wore the green and white shirt to the park.
25. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

I am so happy and excited about the new musical group in the area.

26. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

He moved into the other room and led the group in a game of chess.

27. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

The winter in Wisconsin lasts a long time and seems intense.

28. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).

On a cloudy day, Mount St. Helens is difficult to see, and the view is obscured.
29. Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).
My sister vacuums our house; my job is to wash dishes.

30. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.
I had a peanut butter sandwich for lunch. I ate my apple for dessert.

31. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.
I studied so long for my algebra test. I think I got a really good grade.

32. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.
I will lend you my notebook. I should keep my pencil for writing the test.
33. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

The water was cool. We still went swimming.

34. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

Eat your breakfast. Put your dishes in the dishwasher.

35. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

The oranges tasted absolutely delicious and juicy. The apples were a bit sour.

36. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

I am tired. I am hungry.
37. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

You have the right to vote in the election. You are now old enough.

38. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

Justin will send us some tickets. We can go to Portland.

39. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

Outside, the wind felt chilly. We were cozy inside by the fire.

40. Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.

Jean wrote the entire first chapter. She took a break in the evening.
Simple & Compound Sentences

Name: ________________________________

1. __________________________________________________________________________
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18. __________________________________________________________________________
19. __________________________________________________________________________
20. __________________________________________________________________________
Answer Key

Answers for task cards 1–29
Subject: underlined
Verb: italicized

(Find the subject(s) and verb(s) in this simple sentence.)
1. Computers and books were both available in the library.
2. Ali and Mark flew to Australia three times in two years.
3. This month’s newspaper clearly expressed a request for donations.
4. In Seattle, Elliot often visits the beautiful public market.
5. We congratulated the team on their amazing win.
6. Where will the two boys find their school supplies?

(Identify the subjects and verbs in this compound sentence.)
7. My favorite fruits are oranges and grapes, but my friend loves pineapples.
8. Olive should wash the dishes and clean the house, yet she chooses to play instead.
9. The field was green and lush, yet the children could not find any flowers to pick.
10. The wind howled, and the storm gathered strength.
11. The summer sun was warm, so the group spent the day at the beach.
12. You could take the first bus out of town, or you could walk to the train stop.

(Is the sentence simple or compound? Identify the subject(s) and verb(s).)
13. Simple: I can’t believe that you and Alex found the coffee shop without directions
14. Simple: Cats often hunt at night and sometimes during the day.
15. Simple: We traveled to Belgium last summer and ate Belgian waffles.
16. Simple: We studied the Civil War and watched a war reenactment on a field trip.
17. Compound: We studied World War II, and we visited a war museum.
18. Simple: We read about Greek mythology and created our own Greek myth.
19. Simple: Our friends are supportive during stressful times and often help us solve our problems.
20. Simple: Liam wrote about his favorite time period in history and found excellent research information on the school database.
21. **Compound**: Lizzie *wrote* about her favorite author, and she *found* lots of information in the downtown library.

22. **Compound**: Near our school, we *found* graffiti on buildings, and we *left* it on the walls.

23. **Compound**: My favorite *flavor* is chocolate, but I *sometimes eat* vanilla ice cream.

24. **Simple**: He *wore* the green and white shirt to the park.

25. **Simple**: I *am* so happy and excited about the new musical group in the area.

26. **Simple**: He *moved* into the other room and led the group in a game of chess.

27. **Simple**: The *winter* in Wisconsin *lasts* a long time and *seems* intense.

28. **Compound**: On a cloudy day, Mount St. Helens *is* difficult to see, and the *view* is obscured.

29. **Compound**: My sister *vacuums* our house; my *job* is to wash dishes.

**Answers for task cards 30–40**

*Make the following simple sentences into a compound sentence. Identify subjects and verbs.*

Compound sentences will vary. Students should understand that they need to add a comma or semi-colon before a coordinating conjunction when joining the independent clauses.

**Subject**: underlined
**Verb**: italicized

30. I *had* a peanut butter sandwich for lunch, and I *ate* my apple for dessert.

31. I *studied* so long for my algebra test, and I *think* I got a really good grade.

32. I *will lend* you my notebook; I *should keep* my pencil for writing the test.

33. The *water* *was* cool, but we *still went* swimming.

34. *(You)* *Eat* your breakfast, and *(you)* *put* your dishes in the dishwasher.

35. The *oranges* *tasted* absolutely delicious and juicy, but the *apples* *were* a bit sour.

36. I *am* tired, and I *am* hungry.

37. *You have* the right to vote in the election, and *you are* now old enough.

38. Justin *will send* us some tickets, so we *can go* to Portland.

39. Outside, the *wind* *felt* chilly, but we *were* cozy inside by the fire.

40. Jean *wrote* the entire first chapter, so she *took* a break in the evening.