

Assessment Preparation: Sentence Construction

As you may already know, there are several types of sentences. A sentence is classified according to its structure, or by how many clauses the sentence contains.

- ❖ A **clause** is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb.
- ❖ An **independent clause** is a clause that can stand alone as a complete sentence.
- ❖ A **dependent** or **subordinate clause** does not have all the words it needs to be a complete sentence.

Sentences are made up of these clauses, and the type of clauses that are used help to create several types of sentences.

- A **simple sentence** has **one independent** clause.
- A **compound sentence** has **two or more independent** clauses.
- A **complex sentence** contains **one independent** and **one subordinate** clause.
- A **compound-complex sentence** contains **two or more independent** clauses and **one or more subordinate** clauses.

Directions: Each of the vocabulary words from Chapter 8 has been used in a simple sentence below. On the line provided, improve the sentence to a complex, compound, or compound-complex sentence, as indicated. Be sure to use the simple sentence (although you may add words to it) to construct your sentence, and do not change the part of speech of the vocabulary word.

1. Gabriel held the honor of having been chosen **prefect** at St. Albans Military Academy.

Compound Sentence: _____

2. It was his duty to **rebuke** as many students as possible.

Complex Sentence: _____

3. His girlfriend, Lisa, was **demure** as well as beautiful.

Compound-Complex Sentence: _____

4. Albert played the harmonica with undeniable **fervor**.

Complex Sentence: _____

5. The regular customers saw the owner as some sort of **demented** being.

Compound-Complex Sentence: _____

6. The roller coaster's magnetism **palled**. The teens had ridden it several times.

Compound Sentence: _____

