

# The Ultimate Cheat Sheet for Sentence Structure

## Clause vs. Phrase

### Clause

**IC** – contains a subject and verb; it **can** stand alone as a sentence

**DC** – contains a subject and verb but **cannot** stand alone as a sentence

**DCs** *can be adjective clauses, adverb clauses, or noun clauses.*

**Phrase** – does not contain both a subject and a verb; it **cannot** stand alone as a sentence.

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## Types of sentence structure: Simple, Compound, Complex, and Compound/Complex

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### Simple Sentence (S) - Independent clause (IC)

- She walked the dog.
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### Compound Sentence (CD) – Two independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction or semicolon (IC and IC)

IC, cc IC

corc IC, corc IC

IC; ca, IC

IC; IC

- She went to school, **and** she went to the doctor.

### Coordinating Conjunction (cc) – can be used to connect independent clauses in compound sentences. and, or, nor, for, yet, but, so, ; (semicolon)

- The chair landed on Mr. Macy, **and** it hit him on the back.

### Correlative Conjunction (corc) – are used to combine independent clauses to form compound sentences. Both...and, Just as...so too, Not only...but also, Either...or, Neither...nor, Whether...or

- Not only** was he kind, **but** he was **also** helpful to others.

### Conjunctive Adverbs (ca) – are used to combine independent clauses to form compound sentences.

However	Therefore	Meanwhile	For Example
In Addition	Furthermore	Nevertheless	Besides
Thus	Consequently	Hence	On the Other Hand

- The chair landed on Mr. Macy; **hence**, it hit him on the back.

To replace and: moreover, also, besides, furthermore

To replace but: however, nevertheless, still, on the other hand

To state a result: consequently, therefore, thus, hence

To state equality: equally, likewise, similarly

Others: in fact, for example, besides, in addition, indeed

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**Complex Sentence (CX)** – An independent clause and a dependent clause. If adverb DC is first, you must have a comma. (DC + IC)

#1 DC, IC

#3 IC, DC if SC is though/although

#2 IC DC

#4 IC, DC if SC is since or as meaning why

- **Because** I am failing math, I am retaking it in summer school.
- I love math **provided** it is easy.
- I like summer school, **although** I am not a morning person.
- I am retaking math in summer school, **since** I failed it.

**Subordinating Conjunction (SC)** – begins an adverb clause

After

As If

As Long As

Because

Before

Even Though

If

Provided

So That

Unless

Until

When

Whenever

Where

Wherever

While

**Exceptions:** Though/Although

Since

As

**Relative Pronoun** – begins an adjective clause; who, whom, whose, which, or that

- Michael, **who** can throw the ball ten feet, was a star student. (Non-essential)
- The student **who** likes to watch shark attacks failed my class. (Essential)

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**Compound Complex (CDCX)** – has two independent clauses and one dependent clause connected to one of the ICs.

### Using Coordinating Conjunctions

(IC, cc DC, IC)

1. I walked my dog, **and because** she is lazy, I had to carry her home.

(DC, IC, cc IC)

2. **Because** my dog is lazy, I walked my dog, **but** I had to carry her home.

(IC, cc IC DC)

3. I walked my dog, **but** I had to carry her home **because** she is lazy.

(IC DC, cc IC)

4. I walked my dog **because** my dog is lazy, **and** I had to carry her home.

### Using Conjunctive Adverbs

(IC; ca, DC, IC)

1. I walked my dog; **moreover, because** she is lazy, I had to carry her home.

(DC, IC; ca, IC)

2. **Because** my dog is lazy, I walked my dog; **nevertheless,** I had to carry her home.

(IC; ca, IC DC)

3. I walked my dog; **nevertheless,** I had to carry her home **because** she is lazy.

(IC DC; ca, IC)

4. I walked my dog **because** my dog is lazy; **moreover,** I had to carry her home.