

Different types of sentences used in English language

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As a human we are gifted with the ability to speak and express our thoughts in words. When we speak, we put together words to form sentences. These sentences carry a structure in order to make them comprehensible. The sentence structure decides on how your expressions or emotions might come across to a reader. Therefore, it is important to learn the different types of sentence structure in order to add creativity and interest in your presentations, stories, etc. Basically, sentences are categorized by structure and by purpose.

By structure

According to the basic rules of grammar, a sentence by structure can be of three types:

Simple sentence— a sentence with a single subject and verb is a simple sentence, also called an independent clause.

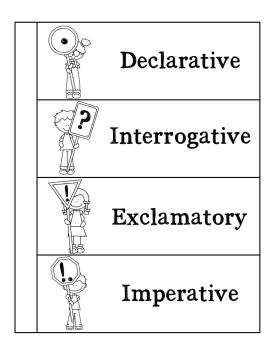
For instance: I love mangoes.

Compound sentence— a sentence with two or more independent clauses connected by a coordinator, such asand, but, for, nor, or, so, yet, is a compound sentence.

For instance: I love mangoes and I love drinking mango shake

Complex sentence— a sentence with an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses connected by a subordinator, such as although, after, since, because, when, is a complex sentence.

For instance: He ate the mangoes after his mother got them from their native place.



By purpose

According to the basic rules of grammar, a sentence by purpose can be of four types:

Declarative sentence – These sentences can be of any type discussed above but will have an assertive tone. A declarative sentence ends with a full stop and is generally short and simple.

For instance: I love chocolate – simple and declarative.

Interrogative sentence – These sentences are used to ask a question and hence, ends with a question mark.

For instance: Do you love mangoes?

Exclamatory sentence – These sentences are used to express strong feelings and emotions, namely, anger, happiness, surprise, excitement, etc. It ends with an exclamation mark.

For instance: Oh my God!

Imperative sentence – These sentences are used to express a command or order.

For instance: Get me some chocolates or close the door.

To summarize

English grammar can be confusing when it comes to sentence structure. Therefore, we have laid out the basic rules for sentence formation by structure and purpose. Hopefully, you will be able to structure your sentence grammatically correct with the help of this guide. For more English learning lessons, join our online spoken English class.

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- By Chander Madan

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