

SENTENCE TYPES AND VARIETIES

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There are four types and four varieties of sentences in the English language.

Type	Example	Explanation
Declarative	She walked to the restaurant.	State information. They end with a period.
Imperative/ Command	Don't forget to call your mother.	Give a command or request. They are missing a subject, as the subject, "you," is understood.
Interrogative/ Question	Did you call your mother?	Ask a question. They are followed by a question mark.
Exclamatory	Make sure you catch the ball!	Express emotion. They are followed by an exclamation point.

Variety	Example	Explanation
Simple	The Saints won the game. Drew Brees won the MVP award.	Contains one subject and one verb.
Compound/ Coordination	The Saints won the game, <u>and</u> Drew Brees received the MVP award. The Saints won the game; Drew Brees received the MVP award.	Combines two or more sentences using a comma [,] and a coordinating conjunction. FANBOYS: coordinating conjunctions for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so. Combines two or more sentences using a semicolon. May also include a transition word.
Complex/ Subordination	After the Saints won the game, Drew Brees received the MVP award. Drew Brees received the MVP award after the Saints won the game. Because class was cancelled, I met a friend for lunch. I met a friend for lunch because class was cancelled	Combines two or more sentences using subordinating conjunctions: because, while, since, although, after (and others) Dependent clause, Independent Clause. Independent clause Dependent clause.
Compound- Complex	Because class was cancelled, I met a friend for lunch, and we talked for hours.	A complex sentence with an added simple sentence.
