Sentence Types

**Simple Sentence**: a sentence consisting of only one clause, with a single subject and predicate

**Example:** Joe waited for the train.

**Compound Sentence**: a sentence with more than one subject or predicate.

**Example:** Joe waited for the train, but the train was late.

**Hint Words**: and, so, but, or, yet

**Complex Sentence**: a sentence containing a subordinate clause (dependent on the main clause) or clauses

**Example:** While he waited at the train station, Joe realized that the train was late.

**Hint Words:** after, although, as, because, since, though, until, while

**Compound-Complex Sentence**: a sentence having two or more coordinate independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.

**Example:** Although Joe likes to be on time, he hasn’t gotten on the train yet, and he doesn’t know when it will arrive.

DIRECTIONS: Read the following sentences and decide whether each is simple, compound, or complex.

1. We rang the doorbell, but no one answered it. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. I wrote Jane a letter while she was away at camp. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Have you seen Mr. Nelsons’s garden at the back of his house? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. The store carries lots of grocery types of items and it has other services because it is the only store in the small town. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Susan likes chemistry, but she likes physics better. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Since we lost every game but one, no one is excited about football this year. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. When I’m tired, I’m not good company for anyone. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. The car was stuck in the mud for a long time, much to my dismay, and the rain just kept falling. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. Susan sang a solo and accompanied herself on the piano. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. When the rain began, we were playing tennis. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. When Uncle Jack comes to town, we all have a good time. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. The bird was sitting on his perch and he was happily eating his food, but then he fell.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Beth likes all seasons of the year, but she likes fall the best. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. On our trip we drove every afternoon until five o’clock. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. We decided that the movie was too violent, but our children, who like to watch scary movies, thought that we were wrong.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Whistling loudly, Ken walked past the cemetery. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many states can you see from Lookout Mountain? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Although I like to go camping, I haven't had the time to go lately, and I haven't found anyone to go. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. I must stay home until the man comes to repair the washing machine. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Our neighbors are going to Canada on their vacation, but we will take our vacation at home. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_