

Name: _____

Simple, Compound, & Complex Sentences

We can improve our writing by learning about different sentence structures.

A **SIMPLE SENTENCE** contains an independent clause, also called main clause, that stands alone.

A **COMPOUND SENTENCE** contains two independent clauses joined with a coordinating conjunction and a comma. A compound sentence may also be joined with a semi-colon.

A **COMPLEX SENTENCE** contains an independent clause plus one or more dependent clauses.

Read each sentence below. If it is a complex sentence, write CX in the blank. If it is a compound sentence, write CD in the blank. If it is a simple sentence, write S in the blank.

- _____ 1. Morgan and Riley plan to enter their robot in an engineering competition.
- _____ 2. If they place first, they might win five hundred dollars.
- _____ 3. The second place prize is three hundred dollars, and the third place prize is one hundred dollars.
- _____ 4. Their robot can follow a simple path through a maze.
- _____ 5. The robot can also sort objects, but it cannot count.
- _____ 6. Morgan and Riley cannot wait until it is time for the competition.
- _____ 7. They named their robot Rowdy and painted it gold.
- _____ 8. When the competition is over, Rowdy will be kept in Mr. Blake's science class.
- _____ 9. Mr. Blake is in charge of the engineering club.
- _____ 10. Morgan and Riley are already planning to build a drawbridge for next year's competition.

ANSWER KEY

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- S** 1. Morgan and Riley plan to enter their robot in an engineering competition.
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- CD** 3. The second place prize is three hundred dollars, and the third place prize is one hundred dollars.
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- CD** 5. The robot can also sort objects, but it cannot count.
- CX** 6. Morgan and Riley cannot wait until it is time for the competition.
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- CX** 8. When the competition is over, Rowdy will be kept in Mr. Blake's science class.
- S** 9. Mr. Blake is in charge of the engineering club.
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