Sentences

Sentence types

When we write, there are three types of sentences — **simple**, **compound** and **complex**.

Parts of sentences

Sentences are made up of the following parts:

| independent clause (main clause) | dependent clause (subordinate clause) | coordinating conjunction | subordinating conjunction |

Simple, compound and complex — what's the difference?

Simple

A simple sentence can stand alone and consists of an independent clause.

Lake Titicaca is located in the Andes.

Compound

A compound sentence consists of two (or more) independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction (such as *and, but, or*).

Wind energy is free **and** it produces no pollution.

Complex

A complex sentence contains two (or more) clauses and one of the clauses is a dependent clause (a dependent clause can't stand alone).
Dependent clauses contain a verb and will begin with a subordinating conjunction, such as *although, after* or *while* (or a relative pronoun, e.g. *who, which* or *that*).

Rome became a state ruled by one man **after** having almost 500 years of republican government in Rome.

Experiment with sentence order

You can experiment with changing the order of your sentence for variety.

After having almost 500 years of republican government, Rome became a state ruled by one man.

Using conjunctions to write sentences

Sentences

Coordinating conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions are words that are used to link two simple sentences to make a compound sentence.

Examples of coordinating conjunctions

- and
- but
- so
- or
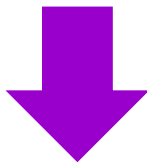- for
- nor
- yet

Subordinating conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions introduce certain kinds of subordinate clauses (dependent clauses). These conjunctions can suggest time, reason, condition, declare information or interrogate.

Examples of subordinating conjunctions

- because
- as
- since
- when
- while
- before
- after

- until
- whenever
- if
- unless
- although
- even
- though

Using coordinating conjunctions to write compound sentences

Julius Caesar wanted absolute power. Julius Caesar marched his army into Rome.

Julius Caesar wanted absolute power *so* he marched his army into Rome.

Using subordinate conjunctions to write complex sentences

Barramundi are being overfished by commercial fishing practices.

Barramundi are being overfished by commercial fishing practices *because* these commercial practices use trawling nets to harvest fish.

Queensland Government

Sentences

Linking words

Linking words can be used to make your writing more cohesive and to show your reasoning or justification.

Linking words	Examples
• *referring to time, sequence or method*	first, second, subsequently, then, now, when, before, after, afterwards, in the meantime, meanwhile, initially, previously, eventually, following, next, last
• *referring to space*	above, below, behind, beyond, between, here, parallel with, in front of, within
• *referring to purpose*	in order to, for the purpose of, so that, to discover
• *to provide details*	for example, for instance, such as, that is, which, to illustrate, namely, specifically, that is to say
• *to provide additional information*	also, and, besides, further, furthermore, likewise, in addition to, similarly, indeed, in fact, actually, what is more, in other words
• *referring to cause and effect*	therefore, thereby, as a result, resulting in, if … then … , when … then … , because, consequently, for that reason, owing to, so, so that, making, hence, creating, causing
• *referring to conditions*	in the event that, as long as, provided that, in case of
• *to compare*	similarly, likewise, both, in both cases, just as … so, in the same way, in the same manner, too, as well, also
• *to contrast*	on the other hand, in contrast, although, however, instead, nevertheless, yet, even though, whereas, rather, whilst, still
• *to reference*	concerning, regarding, with regards to, as for
• *to generalise*	generally, usually, most, many, as a general rule, normally, commonly
• *to emphasise*	more importantly, even more, indeed, essentially, primarily, in essence, actually, categorically, surely
• *in a summary or conclusion*	in conclusion, in summary, finally, in short, to conclude, as previously stated, given these points/data, overall

Sentences

Stretching sentences — prompts to write more

Prompt 1: Tell me what you know about…

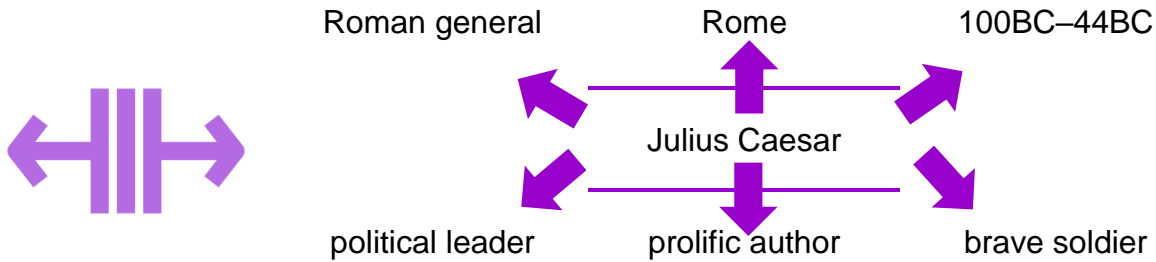Tell me what you know about the subject you're writing about, using these prompts:

Who/what?   **When?**   **Where?**   **How?**   **Why?**

Note: depending on your subject, some prompts might not need to be answered.

Roman general   Rome   100BC–44BC

Julius Caesar

political leader   prolific author   brave soldier

Here's a sentence formed from the prompts:
Born in 100BC, Julius Caesar was a politcal leader, prolific author and brave Roman general.

Prompt 2: *Because, so* and *but*

Show more of your thinking and reasoning.

Use *because* to show a reason or cause

Floods are a constant hazard in Bangladesh because it is on the flood plains of the Ganges and Brahmaputra Rivers.

Use *so* to show an effect or result

Technetium–99 has low toxicity so it won't harm the body.

Use *but* to show difference

Finney acknowledges that the Polynesians' canoes were seaworthy vessels but Quiros argues that the Polynesians were incapable of sailing the Pacific Ocean without assistance.

Prompt 3: Link the writing to the theory

Write how it relates to what you are studying, to show you understand how they connect.
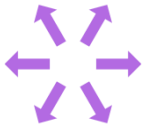
Joe should sit closest to the fulcrum because he is heavier than Sam and more gravitational force is needed when you are closer to the fulcrum.

Queensland Government
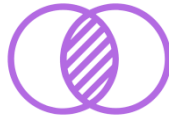
Sentences

Sharpening sentences

Gather content information using, for example:

Who-what-where-when-how-why prompts

Concept mapping

Similarities and differences

Note-taking or making lists

Simple sentences

Start to build sentences from notes: expand **then** sharpen

Note: this expanding process will lead to sharpening.

when/how/why?

did what

who/what

The middle of the target is worth 25 points because it is harder to get than the other two areas due to it being smaller.

Combine simple sentences or notes

- *The forum* was the main public meeting area in ancient Rome.
- *The forum* was the marketplace.
- *The forum* was a large space.
- *The forum* was paved and open.
- *The forum* is surrounded by public buildings (e.g. banks, law courts and temples).

The forum, the main meeting area and marketplace in ancient Rome, was a large, paved, open space with public buildings such as banks, law courts and temples surrounding it.

Remove unnecessary words and repetition: what can I get rid of?

Fusion of the cells, <u>which is</u> muscle cells fused into bundles of fibres with multiple nuclei, lengthens the muscle tissue, <u>which means it is able to</u> span the length of different sized <u>limb</u> bones <u>and also</u> strengthens the muscle tissue, <u>which means it is able to</u> move large, heavy limbs.

Cell fusion, muscle cells fused into bundles of fibres with multiple nuclei, lengthens and strengthens muscle tissue, spanning the length of different sized bones and moving large, heavy limbs.

Experiment!

Can I make the vocabulary more precise or technical?

The <u>middle of the target</u> is <u>worth</u> 25 points because it is harder to <u>get</u> than the other two rings due to it being smaller.

The target's <u>bullseye</u>, the <u>most difficult</u> to hit due to its smaller <u>area</u>, <u>scores</u> 25 points.

Can I change the structure and order?

The forum, the main meeting area and marketplace in ancient Rome, was a large, paved, open space with public buildings such as banks, law courts and temples surrounding it.

Ancient Rome's main meeting area and marketplace, the forum, was a large, paved, open space surrounded by public buildings such as banks, law courts and temples.

Queensland Government