

Stage 3 Writing Tips for Parents



Sentence Types



Syllabus Links

EN3-6B: A student uses knowledge of sentence structure, grammar, punctuation and vocabulary to respond to and compose clear and cohesive texts in different media and technologies.

Content: - understand the difference between main and subordinate clauses and that a complex sentence involves at least one subordinate clause.

- experiment with different types of sentences, e.g. short sentences to build tension and complex sentences to add detail.

Advice for Parents

A sentence is a set of words that is complete in itself. It typically contains a subject, conveys a statement, question, exclamation or command, and consists of a main clause. The different sentence types are simple, compound and complex sentences. High level writing includes the sophisticated use of a range of sentence types for effect. Students are able to enhance their writing by understanding how sentences are structured and using different types of sentences. Another way to improve the use of sentences in writing is by providing your child with appropriate books to read. Authors such as J.K Rowling, Rick Riordan and Michael Morpurgo use a range of sentence types in their stories which greatly benefit their writing.

Activities at Home

Sentence Scavenge

Using a novel of their choice, students identify examples of simple, compound and complex sentences. Students can discuss what features the sentences have that classify them as each different sentence type.

E.g. **Harry stared from his purple-faced uncle to his pale aunt, who was trying to heave Dudley to his feet.**
The comma separates the independent and dependent clauses.

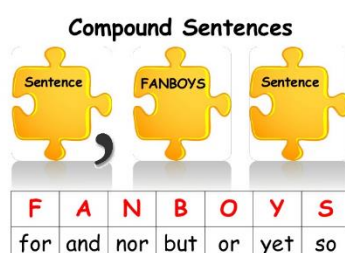
Stretch a Sentence

Student recount one thing they have done in a day and write it as a simple sentence. They then add another action to that sentence to create a compound sentence using a conjunction. The challenge is then to turn that compound sentence into a complex sentence by re-ordering the clauses.

E.g. I went to school.
I went to school and read my book.
While I was at school, I read my book.

FANBOYS Found

Using a novel of their choice, students locate compound sentences by the conjunction used:



Picture Perfect

Using images found in a magazine, newspaper or from an online source, students write a simple, compound and complex sentence to describe what is in the image.



France played in the World Cup and won.



The earthquake in Lombok was very strong, many people died.

