Types of Sentences Exercise

Read the following sentences and state whether they are simple, complex or compound.

A simple sentence has just one clause.

A complex sentence has one main clause and one or more subordinate clauses.

A compound sentence has two or more clauses of equal rank.

1. The girl looked at her brother and smiled.

Simple

Complex

Compound

2. Janet went to the library to borrow some books.

Simple

Complex

Compound

3. The water was so cold that we could not swim in it.

Simple

Complex

Compound

4. The little girl started crying when she couldn't find her toy.

Simple

Complex

Compound

5. I live in a large city.

Simple

Complex

Compound

6. As soon as the bell rang, the children rushed out.

Simple

Complex

Compound

7. We saw a film which was based on the life of Nelson Mandela.

Simple

Complex

Compound

8. His crude remarks offended me.

Simple

Complex

Compound

9. Jane and Alice had their dinner and went for a walk.

Simple

Complex

Compound

10. The boys and the girls were shouting loudly.

Simple

Complex

Compound

11. The customers were happy because they got what they wanted.

Simple

Complex

Compound

12. The meeting was held in a room near the library.

Simple

Complex

Compound

Answers

- 1. The girl looked at her brother and smiled. (Compound sentence)
- 2. Janet went to the library to borrow some books. (Simple sentence)
- 3. The water was so cold that we could not swim in it. (Complex sentence)
- 4. The little girl started crying when she couldn't find her toy. (Complex sentence)
- 5. I live in a large city. (Simple sentence)

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- 6. As soon as the bell rang, the children rushed out. (Complex sentence)
- 7. We saw a film which was based on the life of Nelson Mandela. (Complex sentence)
- 8. His crude remarks offended me. (Simple sentence)
- 9. Jane and Alice had their dinner and went for a walk. (Compound sentence)
- 10. The boys and the girls were shouting loudly. (Simple sentence)
- 11. The customers were happy because they got what they wanted. (Complex sentence)
- 12. The meeting was held in a room near the library. (Simple sentence)