Class

The Kinds of Sentence Structure Types of Sentences

1. A simple sentence contains only one independent clause and has no subordinate clauses.

S V DO The colorful flowers had large blossoms.

A simple sentence may have a compound subject or verb or both. Even though parts of the independent clause are compound, the sentence is simple because it has only one independent clause.

2. A compound sentence has two or more independent clauses but no subordinate clauses.

 $\frac{S}{Tony} \frac{V}{types} \text{ well, but } \frac{S}{he} \frac{V}{does} \text{ not proofread carefully.}$

3. A complex sentence has only one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause. In the following example, the subordinate clause is italicized.

After she sanded the cabinet's surface, she applied a coat of varnish.

4. A compound-complex sentence has two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

The cabinet, which is made of pine, has a dark finish; it matches the furniture in Anita's room.

EXERCISE Identify each of the following sentences by its structure. Write S (simple), Cd (compound), Cx (complex), or Cd-Cx (compound-complex) in the blank after each sentence.

- 1. Many teens enjoy skateboarding.
- 2. Riding a skateboard requires good balance.
- 3. If you skateboard in a competition, you must wear protective pads.
- 4. Some skaters practice everyday, but I practice only on weekends.
- 5. You can buy an inexpensive skateboard for ten dollars.
- 6. Skateboards are made from wood, plastic, or fiberglass.
- 7. At first, skateboards had roller-skate wheels; however, today's boards have special wheels that are much safer.
- 8. When the skater moves his or her weight one way, the board turns in the opposite direction.
- 9. A skateboarding contest is held every Sunday in New York's Central Park.
- 10. I like bicycling, which is much easier than skateboarding.