



Andrell Education
Raising Standards in Education

presents

Big Write® & VCOP®

Professional Development Conference

What are the different sentence structures?

Session 2 of 3

Series: Let's Learn to Write Star Sentences

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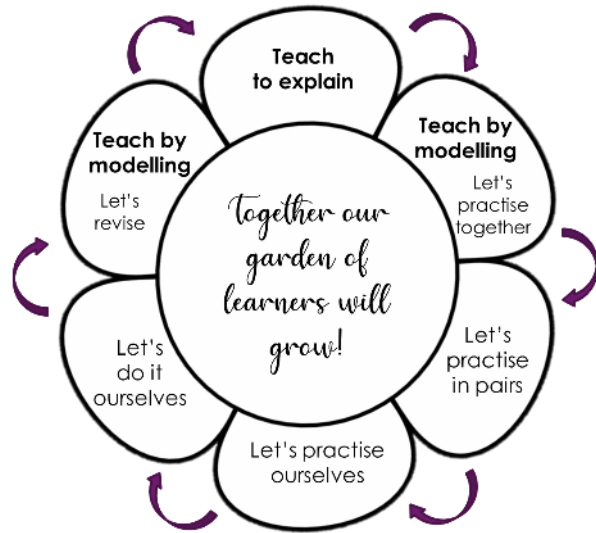
Andrell Education
Raising Standards in Education

Big Write® and VCOP® - Session 2: What are the different Sentence Structures



What are the different sentence structures?

Session 2



Teach to Explain

Sentences structure

Let's Mix Things Up

Using a mix of sentence structures throughout the piece will create an impact on the audience and help the piece flow.

So far, we have only focused on making the sentences grammatically correct so they are easier to read.

Now let's look at the different sentence structures.

- Simple
- Compound
- Complex
- Compound-complex sentence

Teach to Explain

Sentence structure

Simple Sentences

A **simple sentence** only contains one independent clause. It is a complete thought or idea that can stand alone and make sense.

Dogs are loyal.

Dogs make great pets.

My dog is a groodle.

On Wednesday night, my friends and I took Winnie to the local dog park.

(Even though the last example is longer, it's still only one idea.)

Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

Teach to Explain

Sentence structure

Compound Sentences

A **compound sentence** contains two independent clauses (two thoughts or ideas) joined with a type of connective called a conjunction.

Dogs are loyal. (simple)

Dogs (they) make great pets. (simple)

*Dogs are loyal, **and** they make great pets.*

*We take Winnie for a walk every day **yet** she still doesn't seem tired.*

They are joined with coordinating conjunctions. The main coordinating conjunctions are called FANBOYS.

Teach by Modelling

Sentence structure

Simple to compound sentence

Let's turn these simple sentences into compound sentences.

My dog is a groodle.

My dog likes to play catch with me.

James' favourite sport to play is football.

James like to play cricket.

*My dog is a groodle **and** she likes to play catch with me.*

*James likes to play cricket **but** his favourite sport to play is football.*

Let's practise in pairs

Sentence structure

Simple to compound sentence

Can you turn these simple sentences into compound sentences? You can join any two together in any order.

James barracks for Essendon.

Their nickname is the Bombers.

Essendon's guernsey is red and black.

Essendon is an ALF football team.

Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

Teach to Explain

Sentence structure

Complex Sentences

A **complex sentence** contains one independent clause, and at least one dependent clause joined with a subordinating conjunction. A dependent clause is an incomplete thought and can't stand alone.

They (dogs) make great pets. (simple)

Because dogs are loyal. (dependent – incomplete thought)

Dogs make great pets **because** they are loyal.

OR

Because dogs are loyal, they make great pets.

Even though we take Winnie for a walk every day, she still doesn't seem tired.

OR

Winnie still doesn't seem tired, **even though** we take her for a walk every day!

Teach to Explain

Sentence structure

Complex Sentences

Subordinating conjunctions are the glue needed to join a dependent and independent clause together.

A support resource like the one here can be helpful when developing an understanding of complex sentences.

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS		
Comparison Than Rather than Whether As much as Whereas	Time After As soon as Until Whenever Now that	Concession Though Although Even though
Relative Pronouns Who Whoever Whom Whomever Whose	Reason Because Since So that In order (to) As	Condition If Only if Unless Provided that Assuming that
Place Where Wherever	Relative Adjectives That Whatever Which Whichever	Manner How As though As if

Teach by Modelling

Sentence structure

Complex sentences

Let's turn these simple sentences into complex sentences by adding more detail.

James barracks for Essendon, **although**...

James barracks for Essendon, **because**...

James barracks for Essendon, **even though**...

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS		
Comparison Than Rather than Whether As much as Whereas	Time After As soon as Until Whenever Now that	Concession Though Although Even though
Relative Pronouns Who Whoever Whom Whomever Whose	Reason Because Since So that In order (to) As	Condition If Only if Unless Provided that Assuming that
Place Where Wherever	Relative Adjectives That Whatever Which Whichever	Manner How As though As if