

Complex vs. Compound Answer Key

1. **Compound** - Two independent clauses joined by "but."
2. **Complex** - "Because she was sick" is a dependent clause joined to an independent clause.
3. **Compound** - Two independent clauses joined by "and."
4. **Complex** - "Although he studied hard" is a dependent clause.
5. **Compound** - Two independent clauses joined by "or."
6. **Complex** - "Since I forgot my sneakers" is a dependent clause.
7. **Compound** - Two independent clauses joined by "yet."
8. **Complex** - "If the rain stops" is a dependent clause.
9. **Compound** - Two independent clauses joined by "and."
10. **Complex** - "Because she had never been on a plane before" is a dependent clause.

Teacher Guide

- Emphasize the **signal words**: FANBOYS → compound; subordinating conjunctions → complex.
- Encourage students to test each clause: if both halves stand alone → compound; if one half *cannot* stand alone → complex.
- Extension idea: Have students **rewrite 2 compound sentences as complex ones** and **2 complex as compound** to practice flexibility.