

Sentence Patterns and Punctuating Review

- ▶ A clause is made up of a SUBJECT and a VERB (predicate):

Serious students complete their assignments on time.

They usually have many other commitments.

- ▶ Every sentence is made up of at least one clause. A one-clause sentence is called a **simple sentence**. We can join simple sentences into longer sentences.

- ▶ The way clause are joined determines what kind of sentence it is and where punctuation is placed. Clauses are joined by a **conjunction** (which means "joined with").

- ▶ Two or more sentences may be joined with a **coordinating conjunction**, which we remember with the acronym **FANBOYS** (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so). This type of sentence is called a **compound sentence**.

Serious students complete their assignments on time, **YET** they usually have many other commitments.

- ▶ Two or more sentences may be joined with a **subordinating conjunction**, which we can more simply call a **dependent word** (e.g., if, when, after, because, although). This type of sentence is called a **complex sentence**.

Serious students complete their assignments on time **although** they usually have many other commitments.

Although they usually have many other commitments, serious students complete their assignments on time. ★

★ **Punctuation alert:** A comma is needed when the clause with the dependent word (the "dependent clause" comes before the main clause (the one that can stand alone).

- ▶ Three or more clauses may be joined when a compound sentence is joined to a complex sentence. This type of sentence is called a **compound-complex** sentence.

Although they usually have many other commitments, serious students complete their assignments on time, **and** they work carefully on their homework.

Please complete the practice that follows.

PRACTICE

Find each clause by underlining the subject and verb of each clause. If there is just one clause, mark an **S** (for simple sentence) on the line. If there is more than one clause, look how each clause is joined to another. Mark a **CD** (compound sentence), **CX** (complex sentence), or **CD-CX** (compound-complex sentence) to indicate how the clauses are joined.

_____ 1. When students start feeling worn out they should remember that break is in two weeks.

_____ 2. Before the Christmas break we will take a final exam in vocabulary and write an essay.

_____ 3. Few students enjoy writing essays complaining the entire time.

_____ 4. Christmas is usually a happy time although some find it sad and others just avoid the holiday.

_____ 5. Most people give a little extra to charity at Christmastime because they care about others.

_____ 6. Some students like to do service and they spend holidays helping others in foreign countries.

► How did you do? Please see your instructor or Ms. May to check your answers and ask any questions you may have.