Grammar: SENTENCES

TYPES OF SENTENCES

	Independent	Dependent	Example
Simple	1	0	The cat ran under the porch.
Compound	2 +	0	The cat ran under the porch, and the dog ran after him.
Complex	1	1 +	The cat, who is scared of dogs, ran under the porch.
Compound-complex	2 +	1 +	The cat, who is scared of dogs, ran under the porch, and the dog ran after him.

SENTENCE CONSTRUCTION ERRORS

Run-on	Join the clauses with a semicolon or a comma and conjunction.	*No*: It's a beautiful day we're going to the park. *Yes*: It's a beautiful day, so we're going to the park.
Sentence fragment	Rewrite the sentence to form an independent clause.	*No*: A beautiful day to go to the park. *Yes*: It is a beautiful day to go to the park.
Comma splice	Add a conjunction.	*No*: It's a beautiful day, we're going to the park. *Yes*: It's a beautiful day, so we're going to the park.
Misplaced modifier	Move the modifier so it is next to the word being modified.	*No*: Located just down the road, we love going to the park. *Yes*: We love going to the park located just down the road.

TYPES OF CLAUSES

Independent   The dog ate her homework.

Dependent   <u>Because</u> the dog ate her homework

▶ Clauses have a subject and a verb.
▶ Only independent clauses can stand alone.
▶ Dependent clauses start with a subordinating clause.

TRANSITIONS

Introduce an example
for example
including
to illustrate

Introduce another item
first/second/third
furthermore
in addition
moreover
similarly

Show cause
as a result
therefore
since
because

To emphasize
obviously
certainly
in fact

To compare
conversely
however
in contrast
likewise
nevertheless
on the other hand
on the contrary
similarly

Show an exception
conversely
however
in spite of
nevertheless
sometimes
whereas

To conclude
in conclusion
finally

PUNCTUATION

	Used for . . .	Example
period	ending sentences	Periods go at the end of complete sentences.
question mark	ending questions	What's the best way to end a sentence?
exclamation point	ending sentences that show extreme emotion	I'll never understand how to use commas!
comma	joining two independent clauses	Commas can be used to join clauses, but they must always be followed by a coordinating conjunction.
	setting apart introductory and nonessential words and phrases	Commas, when used properly, set apart extra information in a sentence.
	separating items in a list	My favorite punctuation marks include the colon, semicolon, and period.
semicolon	joining together two independent clauses (never with a conjunction)	I love exclamation points; they make sentences seem so exciting!
colon	introducing a list, explanation, or definition	When I see a colon I know what to expect: more information.
apostrophe	form contractions	It's amazing how many people can't use apostrophes correctly.
	show possession	Parentheses are my sister's favorite punctuation.
quotation marks	indicate a direct quote	I said to her, "Tell me more about parentheses."