

Text-based Intervention Simple Sentence Structure

Every clause is a **miniature** sentence. A simple sentence usually has a **subject** and a **predicate** and can have **modifiers**, such as **adjectives**, **adverbs** and **noun phrases**. All of the following sentence examples are **simple sentences** because they contain only **one** clause.

A simple sentence, also called an **independent** or **main clause** contains a subject and verb, and contains a complete thought.

Run!

The boy ran.

The boy ran **quickly**.

The boy **with the blue jeans** ran quickly.

The boy with the blue jeans ran quickly **to the store**.

On a hot summer's day, the boy with the blue jeans ran quickly to the store.

As can be seen with the example of '*The boy ran*' a simple sentence has the potential to be very long. The length of a sentence offers **no clue** as to whether a sentence is **simple**, **compound** or **complex**.