**Written Expression**

**First year(L1) / All groups**

**Lecture 5: The Sentence.**

**The Sentence**

A sentence is a group of words which are tied together to express a statement (idea), a question, or a command. Sentences usually contain a subject and a verb. In written English, a sentence is easily recognized; it begins with a capital letter and ends with a terminal punctuation mark (period, question mark or exclamation point).

* Sentences may be classified by **purpose** (meaning) as follows:

**A Declarative sentence** is used to make a statement, provide a fact, offer an explanation, or convey information. This kind of sentence ends with a period, for example:

* They haven't lived together for over thirty years.
* My parents keep telling me that I should make good grades so I can get a job or go to college.

**An Interrogative sentence** isused to ask a question:

* Why were you so depressed yesterday?
* Who are you?

**An Imperative sentence** isused to gives instructions or advice, and expresses a command, an order, a direction, or a request.

* Consider vegetables over meat. (Advice)
* Leave this luggage at the gate. (Direction)
* Come here, check these documents, and give me your opinion. (Order)
* Put it down now! (Command)
* Please clean your room. (Request)

**An Exclamatory sentence** isused to express astonishment and extreme emotion.

* How happy I was when the dawn came and our flag was still there!
* What did you do at your hair! (exclamation formed as a question)
* I just won 5000 euros! (exclamation formed as a declarative sentence)
* Sentences may be classified by **structure (type and number of clauses)** asfollows.

**A Simple sentence** consists of one complete statement (a single independent/ main clause).

* My parents seem happy in their new apartment.
* French is the language of the province of Quebec in Canada.

**A Compound sentence** consists of two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses. The main clauses may be connected by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so), a semicolon, a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb followed by a comma, or a colon.

* I really need to go to work, but I am too sick to drive.
* Italy is my favorite country ; I plan to spend two weeks there next year
* It was a difficult assignment; however, Kelly was up to the challenge.
* A dolphin is not fish : it is a warm-blooded mammal

**A Complex sentence** consists of one independent clause (main clause) and one or more dependent clauses (subordinate clause).



**A Compound complex sentence** consists of two main clauses (or more) and at least one dependent clause.

* The baby slept and dreamed, and the mother watched (while the rain fell).

main clause main clause sub. clause

* Sarah cried (when her cat got sick), but he soon got better.

m. cl m. cl

**Practice:** Classify each of the following sentences according to its structure. On the line provided, write *S* for *simple, CD* for *compound, CX* for *complex,* or *CD-CX* for *compound-complex.*

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **1.** The capital city of Western Australia, Perth is part of a metropolitan area that contains

about three fourths of Western Australia’s population.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **2.** This city, which has a sunny climate, stands out because of its natural formations; it lies

on the Swan River and contains a thousand-acre area of vegetation called King’s Park.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **3.** Along with access to nearby beaches, Perth has a cultural center that is just north of its

business district.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **4.** Founded in 1829, Perth grew quickly after the discovery of gold near the area in the

late 1800s.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **5.** Visitors can reach Perth by highway, or they can get there by airplane or

transcontinental railroad.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_6.** Cattle raisers have long used the technique of crossbreeding to produce animals that

combine the best qualities of two different breeds.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **7.** The Hereford breed, for instance, originated in England in the eighteenth century; it

was a cross between native Herefordshire cattle and cattle from the Netherlands.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **8.** More recently, American breeders have crossed Herefords and Brahmans in order to

produce a breed called Brafords.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **9.** The Hereford is a beef breed originally from England, and the Brahman, a breed native

to India, is a type noted for its resistance to heat and to disease.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **10.** One of the most unusual animals that American breeders have produced is the cattalo;

it is a cross between a buffalo and a cow.