

## JESI, 2009: Traditional Sentence Patterns

In the descriptions below, S=Subject and V=Verb. Note the conjunctive adverbs, subordinating conjunctions, and coordinating conjunctions.

### **Simple Sentence**

One independent clause (SV)

- The Jolly Green Giant eats snow peas.
- I refuse.

### **Compound Sentence**

Two or more independent clauses. They can be arranged in these ways: (SV, and SV) or (SV; however, SV)

Coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS) – comma: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.

Conjunctive adverb – semicolon and comma: however, then, moreover, nevertheless, nonetheless, therefore

Example compound sentences:

- The Jolly Green Giant eats them for breakfast every day, but I don't see the attraction.
- Eating them makes him happy; however, he can't persuade me.

## Complex Sentence

One independent clause PLUS one or more dependent clauses. They can be arranged in these ways: (SV because SV.) or (Because SV, SV.) or (S, because SV, V.)

Subordinating conjunctions are always at the beginning of the dependent clause. They show how the dependent clause is related to the independent clause. This list shows different types of relationships along with the subordinating conjunctions that indicate those relationships:

- **Cause/Effect:** because, since, so that
- **Comparison/Contrast:** although, even though, though, whereas, while
- **Place/Manner:** how, however, where, wherever
- **Possibility/Conditions:** if, whether, unless
- **Relation:** that, which, who, whom
- **Time:** after, as, before, since, when, whenever, while, until

Examples of complex sentences:

- The giant recommends them highly because they taste like broccoli when they are hot.
- Although broccoli always appeals to me, I still feel skeptical about snow peas.
- Mother Butler, because she loves us so much, has offered to make her special snow pea soufflé for us.

## Compound-Complex Sentence

Two or more independent clauses PLUS one or more dependent clauses. They can be arranged in these ways: (SV, and SV because SV.) or (Because SV, SV, but SV.)

- The Jolly Green Giant said that he would share the secret recipe; however, if he shares it with me, Mother Butler will feed him to the alligators, so he is safer, and I am happier if I don't eat snow peas.