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| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes**  **Topic: Simple and Complex Sentences** |
| **A sentence is a grammatical unit made up of one or more words** (“Go!” is a sentence, as is,” The cat sat on the mat.”).  Sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop, a question mark or an exclamation mark.  Sentences can be structured in different ways:  A simple sentence has a subject and ONLY ONE verb e.g. **The girl sprinted after the tiger**  Complex sentences can also be referred to as multi-clause sentences. A complex sentence is formed when you join a main clause and a subordinate clause with a conjunction. A subordinate clause is one that relies on a main clause to make sense.  The conjunctions in complex sentences are subordinating conjunctions and they tell us about the order or the place in which things happened or specify a cause or effect relationship between events. Conjunctions used in complex sentences include after, although, as, because, if, since, unless, when.  **I love roast potatoes, although my mum prefers them mashed.**  **You need to prepare for the spelling test tomorrow if you want to get all your spellings right.**  **The big dog barked whenever I knocked on the door.**  Complex sentences can also be constructed by including relative clauses (which are subordinate clauses), for example: **Tom, who liked to read, settled down happily with his new book.** |

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