

Sentence transformation exercise

A simple sentence consists of one main clause. A complex sentence consists of one main clause and one or more subordinate clauses.

A complex sentence can be transformed into a simple sentence by reducing the subordinate clause into a phrase.

Study the example given below.

We met a girl who was carrying a basket on her head.

The sentence given above has two clauses:

We met a girl. (Main clause)

Who was carrying a basket on her head (Subordinate adjective clause modifying the noun girl)

We can change this sentence into a simple sentence by reducing that adjective clause into a phrase.

Study the example given below.

We met a girl carrying a basket on her head.

Exercise

Change the following complex sentences into simple sentences.

1. After he had learned his lessons, he went out to play.
2. While I was walking along the street, I saw a dead cobra.
3. Although he was wealthy and educated, he never made a name.
4. If you follow my advice, you will win your object.

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5. As he was driven out of his country, he sought asylum in a foreign land.

6. A gypsy who was wandering across the fields found the baby.

Answers

1. Having learned his lessons, he went out to play.

2. Walking along the street, I saw a dead cobra.

3. In spite of being wealthy and educated, he never made a name.

4. Following my advice, you will win your object.

5. Driven out of his country, he sought asylum in a foreign land.

6. A gypsy, wandering across the fields, found the baby.