

# Compound and Complex Sentences

A **simple sentence** expresses a complete thought. It has a subject and a predicate.

Satchel Paige was a great athlete.

A **compound sentence** contains two simple sentences joined by a comma and a conjunction such as *and*, *but*, or *or*.

Fans waited many hours to see him, but Satch never let them down.

A **complex sentence** contains an independent clause, which can stand alone, and a dependent clause, which cannot stand alone. The clauses are joined with a word such as *if*, *when*, *because*, *until*, *before*, *after*, or *since*. In the following sentence, the independent clause is underlined once; the dependent clause is underlined twice.

When the second baseman caught the ball, the Tigers made a double play.

- A** Write S if the sentence is a simple sentence. Write CD if it is a compound sentence. Write CX if it is a complex sentence.
- Chele is the pitcher for the Leland Lions.
  - When she pitches, they usually win.
  - This outstanding young player has a most unusual style.
  - She winds up ten times, and then she lets it fly.
  - Her pitches look odd, but fans aren't laughing.
  - Since she gets results, they cheer her on.
  - If you go to a game, you will agree.
  - Chele's talent may earn her a scholarship.