

## A Typology of Statements

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For purposes of this class, a statement or proposition is an entity that is either true or false. (Compare *sentences*, which are neither true nor false but which can *express* propositions.) Every statement is either simple or compound, depending on whether (1) it contains another statement as a component and (2) it remains meaningful when the component statement is replaced by any other statement. If it has *both* of these features, then it is *compound*. If it lacks one or more of these features, then it is *simple*. We can also distinguish between two kinds of compound statement: those that are truth-functional and those that are non-truth-functional. If the truth of a compound statement is a function of (i.e., depends on) the truth of its simple statement(s), then it is *truth-functional*. If the truth of a compound statement is not a function of (i.e., does not depend on) the truth of its simple statement(s), then it is *non-truth-functional*. Here is a typology of statements:

statements

simple		compound			
true	false	truth-functional		non-truth-functional	
		true	false	true	false
1	2	3	4	5	6

As an exercise, give an example (or two) of each category.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_