Grammatical and Rhetorical Sentence Types with examples from Ethan Frome

**Grammatical:**

Simple: A single independent clause with one subject, verb and object. Example: She went upstairs right after dinner. (98)

Compound: Two independent clauses sometimes linked together by a conjunction. Example: Her pleadings still came to him between short sobs, but he no longer heard what she was saying. (108)

Complex: A sentence of one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. Example: Ethan was aware that, in regard to the important question of surgical intervention, the female opinion of the neighborhood was divided, some glorying in the prestige conferred by operations while others shunned them as indelicate. (71)

Compound-Complex: A sentence with multiple independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. Example: He bent down, feeling in the obscurity for the glassy slide worn by preceding coasters, and placed the runners carefully between its edges. (109)

**Rhetorical:**

Loose: a sentence formatted where the main clause is expressed first, followed by dependent clauses and phrases. Example: Here the snow was so pure that the tiny tracks of wood animals had left on it intricate lace-like patterns, and the bluish cones caught in its surface stood out like ornaments of bronze.” (99)

Periodic: a sentence where ideas occur chronologically with the climax at the end of the sentence. Example: Almost everybody in the neighborhood had “troubles,” frankly localized and specified; but only the chosen had “complications.” (71)

Parallel: a sentence using the same pattern of words to show that two or more ideas have the same level of importance. Example: In the middle of the floor stood her trunk, and on the trunk she sat in her Sunday dress, her back turned to the door and her face in her hands. (95)

Balanced: a sentence where ideas are organized symmetrically with complementary or opposite ideas on either side. Example: The answer sent a pang through him but the tone suffused him with joy. (33)