

Name _____

A subordinating conjunction begins a dependent clause and connects it to an independent clause to form a complex sentence.

after	although	as if	as long as	because	before	if	since
so	that	though	unless	until	when	where	while

Dependent Clause before our health fair opens.

Independent Clause We have a lot of work to do

Complex Sentence We have a lot of work to do **before** our health fair opens.

Complete each complex sentence with a subordinating conjunction from the box below. Use each word or phrase only once. Write the word or phrase on the line.

as long as	so that	after	if
because	when	since	until

- Our sixth-grade class is having a health fair _____ this unit ends.
- We will set up exhibits with information _____ other kids learn how to stay healthy.
- We want to have healthful snacks for visitors to try _____ our teacher agrees.
- We can demonstrate simple exercises _____ we have the room.
- We would prefer to hold the fair in the gym _____ there is more space.
- We will be limited in what we can do _____ our classroom is small.

Circle the subordinating conjunctions in the box that you did not use. Write a sentence with each one.

7. _____

8. _____

Name _____

A subordinating conjunction connects an independent clause to a dependent clause to form a complex sentence.

- The subordinating conjunction begins the dependent clause.
- When a subordinating conjunction starts the sentence, place a comma after the dependent clause.

Since we have the time, let's visit the museum.

- When the subordinating conjunction is in the middle of the sentence, a comma is usually not used.

Let's visit the museum **since** we have the time.

Circle the subordinating conjunction and underline the dependent clause in each complex sentence. Place a comma in the sentence if it needs one.

1. If the planetarium is open I would like to see the star show.
2. I have been fascinated by stars since I was very young.
3. When the stars are out you can be sure that I am searching the sky.
4. The constellation I know best is the Big Dipper because it's easy to recognize.
5. As long as I see the North Star I can always find the rest of the Dipper.
6. I would like to visit the Southern Hemisphere because the constellations are different.
7. Until that trip happens I will continue enjoying the night sky I know.

Write a complex sentence about stars that begins with a subordinating conjunction.

8. _____

Name _____

A dependent clause in a complex sentence may begin with a subordinating conjunction or a signal word.

after	although	as	as if	as long as	because	before	if
once	since	so	that	though	unless	until	what
when	whenever	where	wherever	which	while	who	whoever

Complex Sentence Before European settlers arrived, native people tapped maples for syrup.

Dependent Clause Before European settlers arrived

Independent Clause native people tapped maples for syrup.

Complex Sentence I don't know **which** house is theirs.

Dependent Clause **which** house is theirs.

Independent Clause I don't know

Complete each complex sentence with a subordinating conjunction or signal word.

- Teachers reward students _____ do their homework.
- _____ spring is fully underway, the sap in the maple trees begins to flow.
- We won't find the trail _____ we use the map.
- _____ we learn the steps, the dance will be easy.

Choose a subordinating conjunction and a signal word from the rule box. Write two sentences that contain dependent clauses.

5. _____

6. _____

Name _____

Combine two short sentences to make your writing more interesting. One way to do this is to move key words and phrases from one sentence to another.

Two Sentences The Pilgrims fed lobsters to their pigs. They fed them on the beach.

Combined Sentence The Pilgrims fed lobsters to their pigs on the beach.

Two Sentences Lobsters were washed ashore. They were washed ashore by the surf.

Combined Sentences Lobsters were washed ashore by the surf.

Combine the sentences by making a phrase in the second sentence part of the first.

1. The Pilgrims sailed from England. They sailed on the *Mayflower*.

Combined: _____

2. The Pilgrims had a kind of corn. This corn was called flint corn.

Combined: _____

3. They probably cooked the flint corn. They probably cooked it by boiling it.

Combined: _____

4. The Wampanoag Indians helped the Pilgrims. They helped them with their crops.

Combined: _____

5. The Wampanoag built round houses. They built them with tree bark and reeds.

Combined: _____

6. Men and women built the houses together. They built them in the spring.

Combined: _____

Name _____

Combine simple sentences with related ideas to form compound and complex sentences.

- You can use a comma and coordinating conjunction to form a compound sentence.

Simple Sentences The drama club is presenting a play. Tara is the director.

Compound Sentence The drama club is presenting a play, **and** Tara is the director.

- Use a subordinating conjunction to build a complex sentence.

Simple Sentences I will be the star. I am the best actor in school.

Complex Sentence **Because** I am the best actor in school, I will be the star.

Build a compound sentence or a complex sentence by connecting the simple sentences with the conjunction in parentheses.

1. Our class had a contest. Everyone wrote a play. (and)

2. Our director chose my play. It was the best one. (because)

3. I wrote the play. I don't need to practice. (since)

4. I took the stage at rehearsal with confidence. I couldn't remember anything! (but)

5. I could let someone else star in the play. I could study my lines. (or)

Name _____

A run-on sentence is made up of two or more sentences that run together without punctuation or a connecting word.

We can see the lighthouse we can't see the keeper.

- You can correct a run-on sentence by forming two sentences.

We can see the lighthouse. We can't see the keeper.

- You can also correct the run-on by making it a compound sentence. Add a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

We can see the lighthouse, **but** we can't see the keeper.

Correct the run-on sentences.

1. Run-on: Long ago, bonfires were built to guide ships people built fires on hillsides.

Correction: _____

2. Run-on: Boston Light was the first in North America there is still a lighthouse there.

Correction: _____

3. Run-on: Long ago, every lighthouse needed a keeper the keeper lived there.

Correction: _____

4. Run-on: The Great Lakes are busy waterways lighthouses guide ships there, too.

Correction: _____

Name _____

A run-on sentence is two sentences run together as if they were one.

- In a “fused” run-on, two sentences are fused together without any punctuation.

We spent the day at the mall we went to every store.

- In a “comma splice” run-on, a comma alone is used to separate two sentences.

We spent the day at the mall, we went to every store.

You can correct both kinds of run-ons by turning them into two sentences or by forming a compound or a complex sentence.

Simple Sentences We spent the day at the mall. We went to every store.

Compound Sentence We spent the day at the mall, and we went to every store.

Complex Sentence Since we spent the day at the mall, we went to every store.

Correct and rewrite each run-on sentence in the suggested way.

1. Patty and I went to the shoe store we tried on lots of shoes.

Simple sentences: _____

2. We went to the card store, I needed a birthday card.

Complex sentence: _____

3. Patty likes to try on clothes, I would rather try on shoes.

Compound sentence: _____

4. The candle store is my favorite store it smells so good.

Complex sentence: _____

5. The food court has great food we ate tuna sandwiches.

Simple sentences: _____

together with the...

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