

Complex Sentences #1

Name: _____

You've already learned that a clause has a subject and a verb. There are two kinds of clauses:

1. An independent clause
2. A dependent clause

Dependent Clause: A dependent clause has a subject and a verb. However, it has NO complete thought. It needs an independent clause. Therefore, it is dependent on the independent clause.

Example: After Tyler called his friend. . . Subject = Tyler Verb = Called

Independent Clause: An independent clause has a subject, verb, and a complete thought. It is a sentence.

Example: He met him at the park.

Simple Sentence: A simple sentence only has a subject and a complete predicate.

Examples: *The dog barked.* / *The big, hairy dog with sharp teeth barked at the mailman.*

Complex Sentence: A dependent clause needs an independent clause. When you put the two together, you have a complex sentence.

Examples: *When the mailman arrived, the dog barked.*
Dependent clause Independent Clause

Subordinate Conjunctions: Subordinate conjunctions connect a dependent clause with an independent clause. Here are some examples:

after although because before if once unless until whenever while

Directions: Write "Dependent Clause" under the dependent clause and "Independent Clause" under the independent clause. Circle the subordinate conjunction.

1. The mailman wouldn't deliver our mail after my dog bit him in the leg.
Independent Clause Dependent Clause
2. Sarah could have done better on the assignment, although she did receive an A.
3. Because she didn't say, "Mother may I?" she had to start over.
4. Before my mom would let me spend the night, she had to talk to Jamie's mom.
5. If you study for the test, you will do much better.
6. Once the play started, we were not allowed to talk.
7. We won't be able to play unless the rain stops by noon.
8. Rex practiced his guitar until he could play the song perfectly.
9. Whenever I think about my third grade teacher, I have a warm feeling inside.
10. We played games while the adults sat and talked.

Name: _____

**Complex Sentences
#2**

Directions: Write “Dependent Clause” under the dependent clause and “Independent Clause” under the independent clause. Circle the subordinate conjunction.

1. The mailman wouldn't deliver our mail after my dog bit him in the leg.

Independent Clause

Dependent Clause

2. Because we were all so tired, we decided to go home early.

3. Unless we do all of our homework, we won't be able to play.

4. My dog waited at the door for us until we got home.

5. Although none of us wanted to leave, we had to be home before midnight.

6. If Charlie doesn't stop teasing that dog, the dog is going to bite him.

7. We took pictures while the monkeys swung from the trees.

8. Whenever my sister gets in trouble, my dad makes her weed the garden.

9. Once school starts, you need a pass to get into your class.

10. Before you accuse someone of stealing your pencil, make sure it isn't just lost.

11. I had to go to the dentist because my back tooth started to hurt.

12. After I finished my project, I asked my dad to check it for mistakes.

13. If I had hit the ball five more feet, it would have been a homerun.

14. We could not go to the movies until my baby sister woke up from her nap.

15. Alice played the piano while Mary played her flute.

Extension: Use each subordinate conjunction below in a complex sentence. Skip lines. When finished, write “Independent Clause” under the independent clauses and “Dependent Clause” below the dependent clauses.

after because before if once unless when wherever whether while

Complex Sentences #3

Directions: Write a dependent clause that turns the simple sentence into a complex sentence. Use the subordinate conjunctions in the extension below for ideas.

1. While we sang at the concert , parents recorded the show with their video cameras.
2. _____ , we will be going to camp.
3. _____ , Dad changed the flat tire.
4. The police searched every house _____ .
5. I like to eat cotton candy _____ .
6. _____ , you can go to the movies on Saturday.
7. _____ , everyone stopped what they were doing.
8. We talked on the phone for hours _____ .
9. We had a hard time finding our way home _____ .
10. _____ , the girls did each others' hair.
11. _____ , we'll have to take two cars.
12. _____ , we sang camp songs for hours.
13. Dawn and I couldn't stop giggling _____ .
14. We stared into space with our mouths wide open _____ .
15. Timmy hopped from one foot to the other _____ .

Extension: Your dog has escaped and wants to play hide and seek. It's your job to track him down. Write a one paragraph story about your attempts to catch him. Use at least three (3) complex sentences. Use the subordinate conjunctions below for ideas.

after as because before if once since so unless
when whenever wherever whether while

Name: _____

Complex Sentences #4

Directions: Write a dependent clause that turns the simple sentence into a complex sentence.

1. While we sang at the concert , parents recorded the show with their video cameras.
2. _____ , I froze like a statue.
3. _____ , the officer walked into the room and asked, "Who's in charge here?"
4. Patsy put her face in her hands and started crying _____ .
5. We bought a huge tub of popcorn _____ .
6. _____ , the boys began chucking snowballs everywhere.
7. _____ , the captain had to wash the deck of the boat.
8. The kids jumped in the air and screamed _____ .
9. Rover did all kinds of tricks _____ .
10. _____ , Frank wondered why no one was here.
11. _____ , the teacher wrote their homework on the board.
12. _____ , a bear broke into our tent and ate our food.
13. We waited in line for tickets _____ .
14. Julian stuffed a dozen marshmallows into his mouth _____ .
15. Everyone stampeded out of the room _____ .

Extension: Think of a task that can be explained easily. For example, you can explain how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Write a one paragraph explanation of how to do that task. Use at least three (3) complex sentences. Use the subordinate conjunctions below for ideas.

after as because before if once since so unless
when whenever wherever whether while

Sentence Combining #1

Being able to combine sentences can help you write more smoothly. Many times you can say things in one sentence better than you can say them in two. These worksheets will help you practice sentence combining. Pay close attention to the new sentences created so you can start making longer, smoother sentences.

Sentence Combining Tricks

1. **Sharing Important Words** 2. Making Phrases 3. Join Sentences

Sometimes you can eliminate needless sentences by taking key words from other sentences and putting them into one sentence. Look at the samples below:

Two Sentences: *The milk spoiled. It was two weeks old.*

Combined Sentence: *The two week old milk spoiled.*

Several Sentences: *The water was cold. The water was dirty. The water was polluted.*

Combined Sentence: *The water was cold, dirty, and polluted.*

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the following sentences into one smooth sentence. You will need to share important words to combine these sentences. Remember, there may be many ways to combine each of these sentences.

1. The high school band gave a concert. It lasted for an hour.
2. Mom bought me a shirt. Next, she bought me some shoes. She bought me pants.
3. I received a letter from my friend Ashley. It was three pages long.
4. We waited for Paul. We waited for Peter. We waited for Mary.
5. Gina made a cake for her dad's birthday. The cake was chocolate with sprinkles.
6. We found a puppy wandering the streets. It was small with black spots.
7. This week in class I wrote a poem. Also, I wrote a song. Then, I wrote a story.
8. My cat can climb a tree. She can climb a fence. She can climb anything else she wants.
9. He was upset about his toy. It was broken.
10. When you draw a clown, be sure to give it a funny nose. Also, give it a big mouth. Then give it wide eyes.

Sentence Combining #2

Sentence Combining Tricks

1. Sharing Important Words 2. Making Phrases 3. Join Sentences

Appositives: Sometimes we use an entire sentence describing something, when we could have just used a phrase in another sentence. Example:

Two Sentences: *Mr. Jones is my coach. He taught me how to bunt a baseball.*

Combined Sentence with Appositive: *Mr. Jones, my coach, taught me how to bunt a baseball.*

Phrases: Sometimes we can take a phrase from another sentence and use it to combine two sentences.

Several Sentences: *Henry went to get some paper. He went down the hall.*

Combined Sentence: *Henry went down the hall to get some paper.*

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the following sentences into one smooth sentence. You will need to take phrases from one sentence and add them to the other sentence. Remember, there may be many ways to combine each of these sentences.

1. Francisco is my neighbor. We walk to school together every day.
2. Kyle threw the ball. It went into the bushes.
3. Tim scored twenty points in our game last week. Tim is our captain.
4. The students enjoyed signing each others' yearbooks. They signed them under the tree.
5. The Battling Butterflies won the championship. They are my sister's softball team.
6. We drove all the way to Flagstaff. We rode in our Chevy Venture.
7. Chuck carried the box to the class. It was filled with reading books.
8. Our choir sang "Friends Forever" at graduation. "Friends Forever" was selected by student council.
9. All the girls in the class gave Antonio a valentine last February. He's the nicest boy in the class.
10. Mom went to talk to our neighbor. She lives across the street.
11. Mr. Derker is my piano teacher. He has been teaching me for three years.
12. Monique wrote a poem. It was about pandas.

Sentence Combining #3

Sentence Combining Tricks

1. Sharing Important Words 2. Making Phrases 3. Join Sentences

Compound Sentences:

When there are two sentences that share a similar thought, you can combine them into a compound sentence. A comma is placed at the end of the first sentence and a coordinate conjunction is used to connect the two sentences.

Two Sentences: *We are having a party. All of my friends are invited.*

Compound Sentence: *We are having a party, and all of my friends are invited.*

Complex Sentence:

Sometimes two sentences can share a complete thought. You have already learned that complex sentences have a dependent clause and an independent clause. In some cases, you can take a clause from one sentence and make it the dependent clause in another sentence.

Two Sentences: *Dad is going to take us to get pizza. We're going after he drives Mom to the airport.*

Complex Sentence: *After Dad drives Mom to the airport, he's going to take us to get pizza.*

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the following sentences into one smooth sentence. You will need to make compound or complex sentences. Remember, there may be many ways to combine each of these sentences.

1. We wanted to see the movie. It was sold out.
2. Tony won an award. He was the fastest runner in the school.
3. Ashley won an award. She received it last Wednesday.
4. The choir practiced for a half an hour. They practiced before going on stage.
5. Mom did her grocery shopping. At the same time, we played video games.
6. Tomorrow we might go to the beach. We might also go to the park.
7. Our football captain rings the victory bell. He rings it whenever we win a game.
8. The bell rang. Everyone raced out of the classrooms.
9. We moved to the front row. We had to move so we could see better.
10. I had a hamburger for dinner. I had ice-cream for dessert.
11. I got a radio for my birthday. I wanted a bike.
12. I had to go back to my house. I forgot my lunch.

Sentence Combining #4

Sentence Combining Tricks

1. Sharing Important Words 2. Making Phrases 3. Join Sentences

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the following sentences into one smooth sentence. Remember, there may be many ways to combine each of these sentences.

1. The baby learned how to crawl. She was five months old.
2. I help Mrs. Snodgrass after school. She was my fourth grade teacher.
3. My dad went on a business trip. He went across the country.
4. I bought a hotdog. I ate it under a tree.
5. We had to take a shower. Then we could go in the pool.
6. We went into the park. We went across the field. We went onto the swings.
7. The United States has people from almost every country. It's the best country in the world.
8. Mr. Simon corrected our papers. At the same time we drew our illustrations.
9. Amy won the lottery. It was worth a million dollars.
10. Michael collected fifty worms for our fishing trip. He got them from our back yard.
11. I scored twenty points yesterday. We lost anyway.
12. Rex barked at the mailman. Next, he barked at our neighbor. Finally, he barked at me.
13. Our coach is taking us to the batting cages. His name is Mr. Henderson.
14. We cut down our tree. Now there is more room to play.
15. The police officer gave a ticket to the driver. The ticket was for speeding.
16. Our class sang a song at the assembly. It was about America.
17. We can save twenty dollars. We have to sign up for ballet lessons today.
18. Before I could eat I had to wash my hands. Then I had to set the table. Finally, I had to make the lemonade.
19. Number Blaster will help me with my math. It is a new computer program.
20. We can go on the Ferris wheel. We can go on the Merry-go-round.

**Sentence Combining
#5**

Sentence Combining Tricks

1. Sharing Important Words

2. Making Phrases

3. Join Sentences

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the following sentences into one smooth sentence. Remember, there may be many ways to combine each of these sentences.

1. We had pizza for dinner. It was pepperoni.
2. Shirley is the captain of our cheer team. She created several new cheers for us.
3. We had to search for our lost ball. It rolled into the bushes.
4. We made chocolate cake for the class. It melted in the car.
5. Mikea won a new bicycle. She sold more cookies than anyone.
6. The barber washed my hair. Then he cut it. Finally, he styled it.
7. Peanut was eaten by Slim. Peanut was my mouse and Slim is my snake.
8. My baby sister cries. She does that whenever my mom leaves the house.
9. The boy rode his bike without his training wheels. He was five years old.
10. I went swimming at the beach. I stayed in the water for an hour.
11. I had to hide my new game from my brother. It had to be in a very safe place.
12. The fireman connected the hose. Next, he dragged it to the house. Then, he turned on the water.
13. We're going to the movies. We'll go after I mow the lawn.
14. You can play on the swings. You can skate around the park.
15. We jumped into the water and jumped right back out. The water was cold.
16. Mrs. Trigs is my math teacher. She explains fractions very well.
17. We had to go to another store to find the video. The store was all the way across town.
18. The doctor took my temperature. He checked my throat. He gave me some medicine.
19. Our class will have a pizza party. We all need to do our homework for a month.
20. The first forty people received free posters. The people had to be wearing red.

Compound-Complex Sentences Four Types of Sentences #1

Before you learn the fourth type of sentence, the compound-complex sentence, let's review the three other types of sentences:

1. **Simple Sentence:** A sentence with only a subject and a predicate.

Examples: *The dog barked.* OR *The big, mean dog barked ferociously at the cat in the tree.*

2. **Compound Sentence:** A sentence with two independent clauses joined by a coordinate conjunction.

Example: *The dog barked, and the cat ran away.*

3. **Complex Sentence:** A sentence with an independent clause and a dependent clause.

Example: *When the dog barked, the cat ran away.*

Compound-Complex Sentences

A compound-complex sentence is exactly what its name states. It is a compound sentence. One or both of the independent clauses will have a dependent clause. This makes the sentence complex as well.

Example:

Compound Sentence: The dog barked, and the cat ran away.

Add the dependent clause: "When he saw the cat"

The dog barked when he saw the cat, and the cat ran away.

Add the dependent clause: "until she was safe."

The dog barked when he saw the cat, and the cat ran away until she was safe.

Directions: Turn the compound sentences below into compound-complex sentences by adding the dependent clauses in parentheses.

Example: Dependent Clauses: (Until I feel better) (Whenever I'm sick)

My mom makes chicken soup, and my dad reads to me.

Whenever I'm sick my mom makes chicken soup, and my dad reads to me until I feel better.

1. Dependent Clause: (as soon as we arrived)

We went to the game, but it started to rain.

2. Dependent Clauses: (while the parents made punch) (once the party started)

The music was loud, and everyone danced.

3. Dependent Clauses: (when the students took their seats) (which was in room 304)

The class started, and the teacher began to teach.

4. Dependent Clause: (if the weather is bad)

We'll go camping, or we might stay in a hotel.

5. Dependent Clauses: (because he had to go to a meeting) (when class started)

The students were ready, but the teacher was late.

6. Dependent Clauses: (when his parents came home) (so we could have more fun)

The party ended, and we went to Tom's house.

7. Dependent Clause: (until the people left the theater)

We bought our tickets, but we couldn't go in.

8. Dependent Clause: (that went over the center field fence)

He hit a homerun, and the Dodgers won the game.

9. Dependent Clauses: (while I do my work) (when I get home)

You can play in the park, or you can go swimming.

10. Dependent Clauses: (so she'd be ready to win) (when she arrived at the field)

The girl put on her cleats, and she warmed up for twenty minutes.

Compound-Complex Sentences Four Types of Sentences #2

Directions: Write a dependent clause that turns the compound sentence into a compound-complex sentence. Use the subordinate conjunctions in the extension below for ideas.

1. While my mom baked the cake she whistled a song, and I hummed along.
2. We went to the store _____, and my dad bought me a bike _____.
3. The cat will drink the milk _____, or it will drink the milk _____.
4. _____ the cars will warm up their engines, and they will race off the starting line _____.
5. The girls sat in the grass _____, and they told stories _____.
6. _____ the snake came out of the hole, but it wasn't able to eat _____.
7. The band played a song _____, and crowd went crazy _____.
8. _____ we had to call to say we'd be late, but no one was home _____.
9. You can sing a solo _____, or you can sing with the choir _____.
10. Amy cleans the board _____, and she empties the trash _____.

Extension: Write three (3) compound sentences. Next, turn them into compound-complex sentences by adding dependent clauses. Use the subordinate conjunctions below for ideas.

after as because before if once since so unless
when whenever wherever whether while

Name: _____

Compound-Complex Sentences Four Types of Sentences #3

Directions: Write a dependent clause that turns the compound sentence into a compound-complex sentence.

1. I go to the golf course _____, and I help carry the bags _____.
2. My cat jumps on my bed _____, and she licks my ear _____.
3. We wanted our picture taken _____, but we were out of film.
4. _____ the kids come running out of the house, and they scream like wild animals _____.
5. _____ she had her choice to take gymnastics lessons, or she could play soccer.
6. The magician needed a volunteer _____, and I raised my hand _____.
7. We counted the pennies _____, and they rolled them _____.
8. Jim and Sarah were going to sit in the grass _____, but it was too crowded.
9. We can't go to the movies _____, and we'll have to take my sister _____.
10. You can wash the cars _____, or you can dry them off _____.

Compound-Complex Sentences Four Types of Sentences #4

Directions: The sentences below are either simple, complex, compound or compound-complex sentences. Read the sentence then circle the letter below that describes the sentence.

1. When the work is finished, we're going to go out for pizza.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

2. We were hungry, but dinner wasn't ready yet.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

3. The puppy jumps into my lap whenever he wants to play, and licks my face.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

4. The birds were playing in our pool.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

5. Ken mowed the lawn, and Jeff washed the car.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

6. The beautiful dancer walked across the stage to accept the flowers from the director.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

7. We have fun whenever my cousins come over, but they won't visit us until they sell their house.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

8. We had to stop swimming because it started to rain.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

9. There is a big box of old baby clothes in the back of the closet.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

10. The boys played while the girls painted, and everyone had a good time.

- A. Simple Sentence B. Complex Sentence C. Compound Sentence D. Compound-complex Sentence

Extension: Write two (2) simple sentences, two (2) complex sentences, two (2) compound sentences and two (2) compound-complex sentences about things that happen during the holidays. Below are some subordinate conjunctions to help.

after as because before if once since so unless

when whenever wherever whether while