

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

When you write, your writing is more interesting if you can vary sentence structures. One way to vary sentence structures is to combine thoughts using **complex sentences**. A complex sentence has **one complete sentence**, or **independent clause**, and **one subordinate clause**, which has a subject and a verb but doesn't express a complete thought. It is not independent because to understand the **subordinate clause**, you need the information in the independent clause. Subordinate clauses are connected to the sentence with **subordinating conjunctions**.

Example: I have to clean my room because mom said so. The information, "mom said so," only makes sense when connected to the other sentence.

Combine the short sentences by using the subordinating conjunction provided to create a complex sentence. **Add a comma when beginning with the subordinate clause.**



Example: Because mom said so, I have to clean my room.

1. Finish eating your breakfast. Brush your teeth.

After eating _____
_____ after _____

2. I have to stay for tutoring. I failed the quiz in math.

Because _____
_____ because _____

3. We won't have practice today. It is raining.

Since _____
_____ since _____

4. I woke up. I saw that it was snowing!

When _____
_____ when _____

5. You eat your vegetables. You cannot have dessert.

Until _____
_____ until _____

6. I was taking a quiz in science. The power went out.

While _____
_____ while _____

7. You practice. You will not get any better at basketball.

Unless _____

_____ unless _____

8. The sun rises in the morning. A rooster crows very early.

Before _____

_____ before _____

9. You need to study your vocabulary words. You can do well on the quiz.

_____ so that _____

10. You have cookies left over. Can I have one?

If _____