Writing Clinic: Complex Sentences

A complex sentence is a combination of an **independent clause** (simple sentence) and a *dependent clause*. The dependent clause starts with a *subordinating conjunction*. Some of the most common ones can be seen in the box on the right. Look at the examples, and then write some complex sentences yourself.

- **I'm learning English** *because I think it is important.*
- *Although John didn't study hard,* **he did very well on the test.**
- **I always eat local food** *when I'm on holiday.*
- **We had lunch at KFC** *before visiting the museum.*
- **I'll tell Jane the good news** *as soon as I see her.*

after
although
as soon as
because
before
if
since
though
unless
until
when
whereas
while

What can you see in the pictures? Describe using complex sentences.

1. 

1. **Peter and Tina are in a wheelchair** *although they are not handicapped.*
2. **They found the wheelchairs** *when they were playing at the local dump.*
3. *After finding the wheelchairs,* **they cleaned and oiled them.**
4. **They'll get punished** *if their parents find out about their antics.*

2. 

1.
2.
3.
4.

3. 

1.
2.
3.
4.

4. 

1.
2.
3.
4.

5. 

1.
2.
3.
4.

6. Now use your imagination and write a few more complex sentences.

LIVEWORKSHEETS