

Subordinators and transitions to compare and contrast

Exercise 1

Instructions: Read the sentences and choose the answer that correctly identifies the nature of the underlined transition/subordinator in each of the following sentences:

1. Because a water main downtown broke this morning, several businesses had no water for hours.
 - a) Time
 - b) Comparison
 - c) Cause and effect
2. Even though most Americans are primarily concerned about obesity as it exists in the U.S., it should be remembered that it is now nearly a worldwide disease.
 - a) Time
 - b) Contrast
 - c) Comparison
3. Larry will probably be a late bloomer socially, just like his older brothers.
 - a) Time
 - b) Contrast
 - c) Comparison
 - d) Cause and effect
4. Rock climbing takes much practice and skill. In the same way, learning to write will requires a great deal of practice.
 - a) Time
 - b) Condition
 - c) Comparison
5. In wealthy nations, electricity is distributed through a power grid whereas in developing countries, electricity is less common and people depend on burning wood or kerosene for heat and light.
 - a) Comparison
 - b) Contrast
 - c) Condition
6. Although extending the power grid to remote areas is possible, it takes years and can be expensive.
 - a) Condition
 - b) Comparison
 - c) Contrast

Exercise 2

Instructions: Read the sentences and choose the answer that correctly identifies the appropriate transition word or subordinator. Then select the adverb clause.

1. _____ the invention of television, people probably spent more of their leisure time reading.
a) Unless
b) Because
c) Before
2. _____ I'm allergic to flowers, my boyfriend bought a bouquet of roses.
a) When
b) Because
c) Even though
3. Math was hard for me in high school. _____, it is hard in college.
a) Likewise
b) Because
c) Whereas
4. Houseplants require much care and attention; _____, outdoor plants must be cared properly.
a) Though
b) Since
c) Similarly
5. _____ Manny's car stereo was on full blast, I could see his lips moving.
a) Although
b) While
c) Because