Complex sentences

• While a simple sentence contains just one clause, complex sentences contain at least one main clause and then one, two, or several subordinate clauses.
Simple sentence: *It's the product of the future.*
Complex sentence:
(Add a participle clause) ***Outselling all others**, it's the product of the future.*
(Add a relative clause) *Outselling all others, it's the product of the future **(that)** we've all dreamed about.*

• The subordinate clause gives more information about the main clause. Subordinate clauses can be participle clause, relative clauses, and clauses starting with a **linker** (***because***, ***as***, ***and***, etc.).

• Coordinating conjunctions (*and*, *so*, *but*, etc.) can be used to add additional main clauses.
*Outselling all others, it's the product of the future (that) we've all dreamed about, **and** we think it will only get better in the future.*

Work with a partner. Look at this sentence from the article on page 73. How many clauses does it contain? Are the clauses ...

a main clauses?
b subordinate clauses?

Because you will command your phone by voice, / you will receive immediate feedback from an AI-powered virtual assistant, / and you will never be disconnected, / making any interaction instant and constant.

Break the sentence down into simple one-clause sentences.

a You will be able to command _____ .
b You will be able to receive _____ .
c You will never _____ .
d You can make instant and _____ .

Compare the original sentence in Exercise 1 with the shorter sentences. Circle any differences in the longer sentence and find examples of ...

a use of linkers.
b dropping subject pronouns and auxiliaries.
c use of participle clauses.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Put the words in the correct order to form complex sentences, then underline the main clauses.

a when I can't find them / and generating voice directions, / where I've left them. / I'd love to have a device that locates my car keys / to let me know / by sending a signal to my GPS

b constantly making recommendations / or searching for information, / and generally interfering in my life. / I would not want technology / to be implanted in my brain / without my asking

c A virtual assistant will be a great way / as I am often on the road / to have constant access to my contacts / without having to actually grab my phone / and don't always have time to stop my car.

Combine the three simple sentences to make one complex sentence. Use the words in parentheses. Do not reuse the words that are crossed out.

a I needed a new phone. Someone had stolen mine. I went to the mall to buy a new one. (needing, because)

b I thought about it for some time. I decided it was too expensive. I bought a simpler model. (having, so)

c I thought about it again. I realized I just needed a straightforward phone. I use my phone to make calls and send text messages. (thinking~~, I use~~)

d I'm happy with my purchase. It's smaller and lighter. It looks really good! (because, being, ~~it's~~)

LIVEWORKSHEETS