

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.