

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #17

FOCUS Complex Sentences

A **complex sentence** has an independent clause and at least one dependent clause. An independent clause has a noun connected to a verb that expresses a complete thought. A dependent clause has a noun connected to a verb that does not express a complete thought.

Example: Ty finished his work (independent clause) + before he ate lunch (dependent clause) = Ty finished his work before he ate lunch. (complex sentence)

CONNECT TO WRITING

Complex sentences can help explain the relationship between complicated ideas. If starting a sentence with one of these dependent clauses, follow the clause with a comma:

Adjectival Clauses modify nouns or pronouns. These pronouns begin many adjectival clauses: *who*, *whose*, *on (for, of) whom* to refer to people; *that* refers to people or things; and *which* refers only to things.

Example: John, whose work is well-known, won the prize.

Adverbial Clauses modify a verb or another adverb. Subordinating conjunctions begin adverbial clauses. This memory trick will help you remember the common subordinating conjunctions:

Bud is wise, but hot! AAA WWW

Bud: Before, unless, despite (in spite of); **is:** in order that, since;

wise: while, if, since, even though (if); **but:** because, until, that; **hot:** how, once, than!

AAA: After; Although (though); **As** (As if, As long as, As much as, As soon as, As though)

WWW: Whether; **When** (Whenever); **Where** (Wherever)

Example: As long as she can wait, they will wait.

PRACTICE

Re-write the following simple sentences into complex sentences in the spaces below.

1. he will be able to go outside to play the boy practices his trombone as soon as

2. whose tonight we celebrate a special young lady, achievement is special

WRITE

Write your own complex sentence.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet Answers

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #16 Practice Answers

1. I enjoy watching old television shows, but (yet) the new ones are better.
2. Do you want vanilla, or (and) do you want strawberry?
3. No one really wants to go; they just feel like they must attend.
4. This route takes too long; there must be another way.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #17 Practice Answers

1. As soon as the boy practices his trombone, he will be able to go outside to play.
2. Tonight we celebrate a special young lady, whose achievement is special.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #18 Practice Answers

After the sun set, the campers roasted marshmallows, and John then told a campfire story. Since the captain had a beard, he knew the sailor, and the sailor did not recognize him. Although he knew better, he could not teach her, because she just would not listen.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #19 Practice Answers

Options: Running down the hill, I saw her. I saw her running down the hill.
Finally, (any subject then predicate) the reason he left.
The playground seems to be covered with ice.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #20 Practice Answers

1. Jonathan seemed very selfish. He never shared with the other children.
2. Ms. Clements always prepared well for her lesson plans, and (so) the results paid off.
Option: Ms. Clements always prepared well for her lesson plans; the results paid off.
3. Nicco enjoyed video games, playing only after completing his chores.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #21 Practice Answers

The women in the clown costumes must be she PN and her mother. We S didn't recognize them at first, but at least I S asked, "Who were they PN?" Sue and he S arrived at the party earlier than I A, but no one came as early as she A.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #22 Practice Answers

He told them DO after him OP. He had wanted to tell us I first, but when came to see me I, I said that he should tell him IO the news before me OP. He had not given it IO much thought.