


Subordinating Conjunctions Worksheet

Name _____ Conjunctions



Subordinating Conjunctions

DIRECTIONS: Use a subordinating conjunction to combine each pair of sentences. Write your new sentence on the line below.

1. Last night we ordered pizza. We were out of food.

2. We had a substitute today. Our teacher was sick.

3. We won't get the contract. Our proposal is full of errors.

4. She works in the evenings. She has a part-time job.

5. Our rent will be late. We have to drop it off today.

6. We won't get a promotion. We have to get a certification.

7. Allison named her dog Batman. Allison likes superheroes.

8. We can't go to bed. We have to do our homework.

9. We went for a walk. We went after dinner.

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Subordinating conjunctions worksheet is an essential tool for educators and students alike, aimed at enhancing the understanding and application of subordinating conjunctions in sentence construction. Subordinating conjunctions are words that join an independent clause and a dependent clause, creating complex sentences that add depth and sophistication to writing. This article will explore the definition, function, and examples of subordinating conjunctions, as well as providing a comprehensive worksheet that can be used in various educational settings.

Understanding Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions are words that connect a dependent clause (a group of words that cannot stand alone as a sentence) to an independent clause (a complete sentence). By doing so, they establish a relationship between the two clauses, often indicating time, cause, condition, contrast, or

purpose.

Common Subordinating Conjunctions

Below is a list of some of the most commonly used subordinating conjunctions:

1. Although
2. Because
3. Since
4. Unless
5. While
6. If
7. After
8. Before
9. As
10. Even though

Each of these conjunctions serves a unique purpose in connecting clauses and providing clarity in writing.

The Importance of Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions are vital in the construction of complex sentences. They allow writers to express more complicated ideas by combining thoughts in a way that enhances meaning. Here are some reasons why subordinating conjunctions are important:

- Clarity: They help clarify the relationship between different parts of a sentence.
- Variety: Using subordinating conjunctions can add variety to writing styles, moving away from simple sentences.
- Complexity: They allow for the expression of more nuanced ideas, making writing richer and more engaging.

How to Use Subordinating Conjunctions

Using subordinating conjunctions effectively requires understanding their placement and the structure of the clauses they connect. Here are some rules and examples:

Placement of Subordinating Conjunctions

1. At the Beginning of a Sentence: When a subordinating conjunction starts a sentence, a comma is typically used after the dependent clause.
 - Example: "Although it was raining, we decided to go for a walk."

2. In the Middle of a Sentence: When placed in the middle, no comma is needed unless the dependent clause is non-essential.

- Example: "We decided to go for a walk although it was raining."

3. Dependent Clause First: If the dependent clause comes first, it requires a comma.

- Example: "Because she studied hard, she passed the exam."

4. Independent Clause First: If the independent clause precedes the dependent clause, no comma is needed.

- Example: "She passed the exam because she studied hard."

Creating a Subordinating Conjunctions Worksheet

To help students practice using subordinating conjunctions, a worksheet can be created that includes various activities. Below are some ideas for exercises to include:

Exercise 1: Identify the Subordinating Conjunction

Provide students with sentences and ask them to underline the subordinating conjunction.

- Example Sentences:

1. "Although it was late, I decided to call him."
2. "She was happy because she received a promotion."
3. "If it snows, we will cancel the picnic."

Exercise 2: Fill in the Blanks

Create sentences with missing subordinating conjunctions and ask students to fill in the blanks.

- Example Sentences:

1. "_____ she was tired, she finished her assignment."
2. "I will go to the store _____ you need anything."
3. "_____ it was a holiday, the office was still open."

Exercise 3: Combine the Following Sentences

Provide pairs of simple sentences and ask students to combine them into one complex sentence using a subordinating conjunction.

- Example Sentences:

1. "He was late. He missed the bus."
2. "She loves to read. She doesn't have time."

Answers:

1. "He was late because he missed the bus."
2. "Although she loves to read, she doesn't have time."

Exercise 4: Create Your Own Sentences

Ask students to create their own sentences using a list of provided subordinating conjunctions. Encourage creativity and variety in their sentence structures.

- Example Subordinating Conjunctions:
- Although
- Because
- Since
- Unless

Assessment and Feedback

After students complete the worksheet, it is important to assess their understanding of subordinating conjunctions. Here are some tips for effective assessment and feedback:

- Review Answers Together: Go over the answers as a class to clarify any misunderstandings.
- Provide Constructive Feedback: Highlight what students did well and areas for improvement.
- Encourage Peer Review: Have students exchange worksheets and provide feedback to each other on the use of subordinating conjunctions.

Conclusion

Incorporating a subordinating conjunctions worksheet into your teaching strategy can significantly enhance students' writing skills. By understanding the function of subordinating conjunctions, practicing their use, and receiving constructive feedback, students can learn to create more complex and nuanced sentences. This not only improves their writing skills but also fosters critical thinking and creativity in their expression. As educators, it is essential to provide students with the tools they need to succeed in their language studies, and subordinating conjunctions play a key role in that development.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are subordinating conjunctions?

Subordinating conjunctions are words that connect an independent clause with a dependent clause, indicating a relationship between the two.

Can you provide examples of subordinating conjunctions?

Yes, common subordinating conjunctions include 'although', 'because', 'since', 'unless', 'while', and 'if'.

What is the purpose of a subordinating conjunction worksheet?

A subordinating conjunction worksheet helps students practice identifying and using subordinating conjunctions in sentences, enhancing their understanding of complex sentence structures.

How can I create an effective subordinating conjunction worksheet?

To create an effective worksheet, include exercises that require students to fill in blanks, combine sentences, and identify subordinating conjunctions in provided texts.

What grade level is appropriate for using subordinating conjunction worksheets?

Subordinating conjunction worksheets are typically used in middle school (grades 6-8), but can also be beneficial for advanced elementary students and high school learners.

Are there any online resources for subordinating conjunction worksheets?

Yes, many educational websites offer free downloadable subordinating conjunction worksheets, as well as interactive exercises and quizzes.

How do subordinating conjunctions affect sentence structure?

Subordinating conjunctions create complex sentences by linking a dependent clause to an independent clause, which adds depth and detail to writing.

What are some common mistakes students make with subordinating conjunctions?

Common mistakes include using a subordinating conjunction to start an independent clause or failing to use a comma when needed in complex sentences.

How can teachers assess student understanding of subordinating conjunctions?

Teachers can assess understanding through quizzes, written assignments, and group activities that require the use of subordinating conjunctions in context.

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