

TABE
ELA-E
PAXEN

Unit-3
SENTENCES

Lesson-19
Complex Sentences

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ELA-E-19 Complex Sentences

Lesson 19

Complex Sentences

3.L.1.i — High

A **complex sentence** includes an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. A **dependent clause** cannot stand alone as a sentence. Dependent clauses often begin with a subordinating conjunction. When a dependent clause comes first in a sentence, it is followed by a comma.

Subordinating Conjunctions							
after	although	as	because	before	even if	If	in case
once	since	unless	until	when	whenever	whether	while

Examples It was a cold winter day when I visited Chicago for the first time.

independent clause dependent clause

When I visited Chicago for the first time, it was a cold winter day.

dependent clause independent clause

(This sentence has two clauses. The subject of the independent clause is *it*, and the verb is *was*. The subject of the dependent clause is *I*, and the verb is *visited*. *When I visited Chicago for the first time* is a clause but not a complete sentence. It has a subject and a verb but does not express a complete thought. It “depends” on the independent clause to express a complete thought.)



Test Example

1. Which of these is a complex sentence?
 - A. I carpool with a friend to my evening yoga class.
 - B. Because my friend’s car had a flat tire, I drove last night.
 - C. There is a smoothie shop next door, so we usually get smoothies afterward.
 - D. I always order a banana-strawberry smoothie with protein powder.

B. The independent clause is *I drove last night*. The dependent clause is *because my friend’s car had a flat tire*.

Strategy

To help identify a dependent clause, look for a subordinating conjunction. Then, check if the subordinating conjunction is followed by a clause with a subject and verb.

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Practice

1 Which sentence is a complex sentence?

- A. The conference starts at 8:00AM, so we should leave early.
- B. I will bring the handouts, and you should bring the laptop.
- C. Our presentation is during the last session.
- D. After the conference is over, we can have dinner.

2 Which two sentences are complex sentences?

- A. Grocery shopping always takes such a long time.
- B. If I organize my list by grocery department, we can shop together.
- C. I will look for items on the first half of the list, and you look for items on the second half.
- D. I won't know the tax on the items until the cashier is done.

3 Which sentence is a complex sentence?

- A. I couldn't vote in the last election, but I will vote in this election.
- B. I will learn more about the candidates before I make my choice.
- C. I like one of the candidate's ideas about education, but I like the other one's ideas about traffic.
- D. I will get to the polls early on election day.

4 Which sentence is a complex sentence?

- A. This town has two train stations, and both stations are really busy.
- B. One station is north, and the other is south.
- C. Before you leave, you should check your ticket.
- D. The trains are comfortable, so you should enjoy the ride.

5 Read the sentence.

While my friend is in the hospital, I am watching her two kids.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. While my friend is in the hospital
- B. in the hospital I am
- C. I am watching her two kids
- D. watching her two kids

6 Read the sentence.

I was really irritated when I saw the mess.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. I was really irritated
- B. irritated when I saw
- C. when I saw the mess
- D. I saw the mess

7 Read the sentence.

I enjoy my job because my coworkers are friendly.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. I enjoy my job
- B. my job because
- C. because my coworkers
- D. because my coworkers are friendly

8 Read the sentence.

When I was ten, I fell out of a tree and broke my leg.

Which group of words is the dependent clause?

- A. When I was ten
- B. I was ten
- C. I fell out of a tree
- D. and broke my leg

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Complex Sentences

3.L.1.i – High

- 1** Which of these is a complex sentence?
- A. My computer shut down, and it would not restart.
 - B. I could not fix it, so I called the computer company.
 - C. The technical support person was helpful, and I followed her instructions.
 - D. When my coworker's computer had the same problem, I fixed it.
- 2** Which two sentences are complex sentences?
- A. After I moved, I got a new phone number.
 - B. I did not give the number to my old landlord.
 - C. I had left some valuables behind, and she found them.
 - D. Although she could not call me, she did write me a letter.
- 3** Read the sentence.
I proofread my résumé carefully before I sent it out.
Which of these is the dependent clause?
- A. I proofread
 - B. my résumé carefully
 - C. before I sent it out
 - D. I sent it out
- 4** Which of these is a complex sentence?
- A. Michele applied for a job as a public safety officer.
 - B. She liked people and was friendly.
 - C. When the city offered her a job, she was very happy.
 - D. She will attend training and start her new job next month.
- 5** Read the sentence.
After I completed the voter registration form, I got my voter registration card in the mail.
Which of these is the dependent clause?
- A. After I completed the voter registration form
 - B. I completed the voter registration form
 - C. I got my voter registration card
 - D. voter registration card in the mail
- 6** Which of these is a complex sentence?
- A. Miguel is retired, but he stays busy with different activities.
 - B. Because he loves animals, he volunteers at the animal shelter.
 - C. He often walks the dogs and cleans out the kennels.
 - D. Sometimes, he trains other volunteers or helps with paperwork.
- 7** Read the sentence.
We could work on the project together if you would like some help.
Which of these is the dependent clause?
- A. We could work on the project
 - B. on the project together
 - C. if you would like some help
 - D. would like some help
- 8** Which of these is a complex sentence?
- A. Tiana is one of the Reserve Bank's best employees.
 - B. As a bank teller, Tiana has many responsibilities.
 - C. She is polite to customers, and she has strong math skills.
 - D. She got a raise after she had her first performance review.

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Read the sentence.

Because you are a good cook, you could create your own recipes.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. Because you are a good cook
- B. you are a good cook
- C. you could create your own
- D. could create your own recipes

10

Which of these is a complex sentence?

- A. Lisa has good communication skills.
- B. She can send emails and talk with clients at the same time.
- C. While she exercises at the gym, she sometimes texts her friends.
- D. She likes to explore a variety of websites at once.

11

Which two sentences are complex sentences?

- A. We do not have an air conditioner in our apartment.
- B. Since a heat wave is expected, I will buy a few box fans.
- C. I could not find any at the hardware store or the grocery store.
- D. Once I ran out of other options, I ordered the box fans online.

12

Read the sentence.

Unless the weather is bad, we will repaint the siding on the house next week.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. Unless the weather is bad
- B. the weather is bad
- C. we will repaint the siding
- D. on the house next week

13

Which of these is a complex sentence?

- A. The meeting starts at 9 a.m., and we should get there early.
- B. Remember to bring extra copies of the proposal.
- C. Do you need a ride in the morning?
- D. If you need a ride, let me know as soon as possible.

14

Read the sentence.

Before the meeting began, I sent an email reminder to the staff.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. Before the meeting began
- B. I sent an email
- C. an email reminder to
- D. to the staff

15

Which of these is a complex sentence?

- A. My son visits an occupational therapist once a week.
- B. Please help me with this program on my computer.
- C. I turn up my phone's volume whenever I am on call.
- D. A good waiter can easily serve several customers at once.

16

Read the sentence.

I will not buy a new laptop until I find a good price.

Which of these is the dependent clause?

- A. I will not buy
- B. not buy a new laptop
- C. laptop until I find
- D. until I find a good price

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(3.L.1.i)

1. D. The dependent clause is *After the conference is over*, and the independent clause is *we can have dinner*.
2. D. The independent clause is *I won't know the tax on the items*, and the dependent clause is *until the cashier is done*.
3. B. The independent clause is *I will learn more about candidates*, and the dependent clause is *before I make my choice*.
4. C. The independent clause is *you should check your ticket*, and the dependent clause is *Before you leave*.
5. A. *I am watching her two kids* stands alone as an independent clause. *While my friend is in the hospital* is a dependent clause.
6. C. *I was really irritated* is an independent clause. *When I saw the mess* is a dependent clause.
7. D. *I enjoy my job* is an independent clause, and *because my coworkers are friendly* is a dependent clause.
8. A. *I fell out of a tree and broke my leg* is an independent clause. *When I was ten* is a dependent clause.

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Practice 19

Complex Sentences

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(3.L.1.i)

1. D. The sentence has a dependent clause: *When my coworker's computer had the same problem.*
 2. A, D. The dependent clause of the first complex sentence is *After I moved.* The dependent clause of the second complex sentence is *Although she could not call me.*
 3. C. The dependent clause is *before I sent it out.*
 4. C. The sentence has a dependent clause: *When the city offered her a job.*
 5. A. The dependent clause is *After I completed the voter registration form.*
 6. B. The dependent clause has a dependent clause: *Because he loves animals.*
 7. C. The dependent clause is *if you would like some help.*
 8. D. The sentence has a dependent clause: *after she had her first performance review.*
 9. A. The dependent clause is *Because you are a good cook.*
 10. C. The sentence has a dependent clause: *While she exercises at the gym.*
 11. B, D. The dependent clause of the first complex sentence is *Since a heat wave is expected.* The dependent clause of the second complex sentence is *Once I ran out of other options.*
 12. A. The dependent clause is *Unless the weather is bad.*
13. D. The sentence has a dependent clause: *If you need a ride.*
 14. A. The dependent clause is *Before the meeting began.*
 15. C. The sentence has a dependent clause: *whenever I am on call.*
 16. D. The dependent clause is *until I find a good price.*