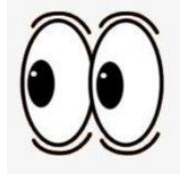


Subordinate Clauses

A subordinate clause is a clause that cannot stand alone as a complete sentence because it does not express a complete thought.

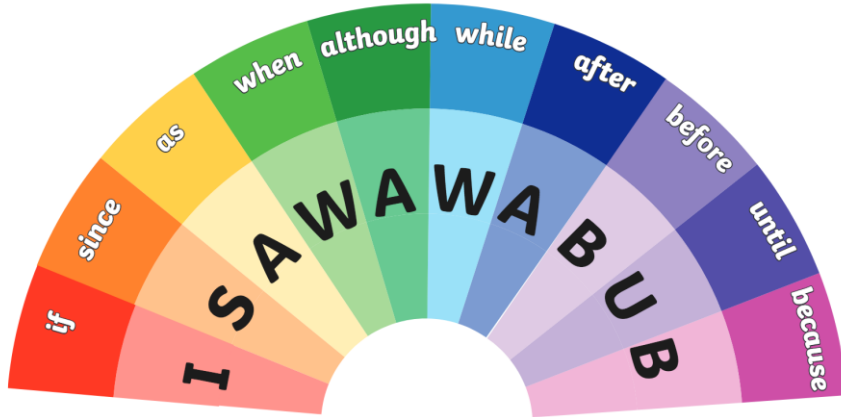
Like all clauses, a subordinate clause has a subject and a verb.

Subordinate clauses begin with a subordinating conjunction (I SAW A WABUB).



Subordinating Conjunctions

Here are 10 of the most common subordinating conjunctions. They are used at the beginning of a subordinating clause which is a clause that doesn't make sense on its own.



Examples:

I like to eat lunch outside when the sun is shining.

While the family slept, the mouse ran around the kitchen and ate the bread.

The boy played football at the park until his mum called him home for dinner.

Notice the comma?

Day 1 – Identifying Subordinate Clauses

Underline the subordinate clause in these complex sentences and circle the subordinating conjunction.

I paid the driver when I got on the bus.

Eat at Sizzling Sausages because the food is great!

Because it was raining, I took my raincoat with me.

If you tidy your bedroom, we'll go to the cinema later.

I'll go to sleep when I've finished reading my book.

Since everyone is not here yet, we'll wait a few minutes.



Day 2 – Completing Subordinate Clauses

Remember, a subordinate clause cannot stand alone – they rely on a main clause to make sense and to be a complete complex sentence. Complete the complex sentences by adding more detail in the form of a main clause.



Finish off the sentences by adding more detail to these subordinate clauses.

a) While the rain poured down, _____

b) Before the party had started, _____

c) _____ before it's too late.

d) _____ because I don't know the answer.

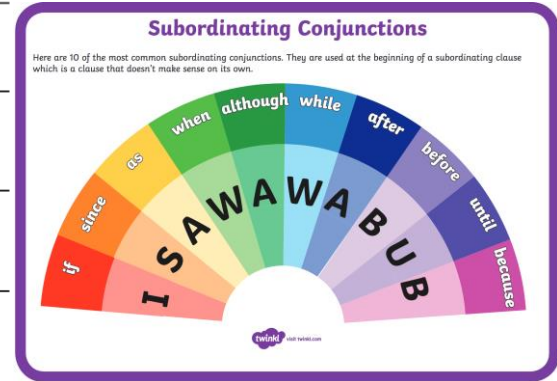
Can you identify the subordinating conjunction?

Day 2 – Completing Subordinate Clauses

Remember, a subordinate clause cannot stand alone – they rely on a main clause to make sense and to be a complete complex sentence. Complete the complex sentences by adding a subordinate clause (don't forget I SAW A WABUB!)

These sentences begin with a main clause. Add a subordinate clause to each one to finish the sentences. Remember that the subordinate clause **should not make sense on its own.**

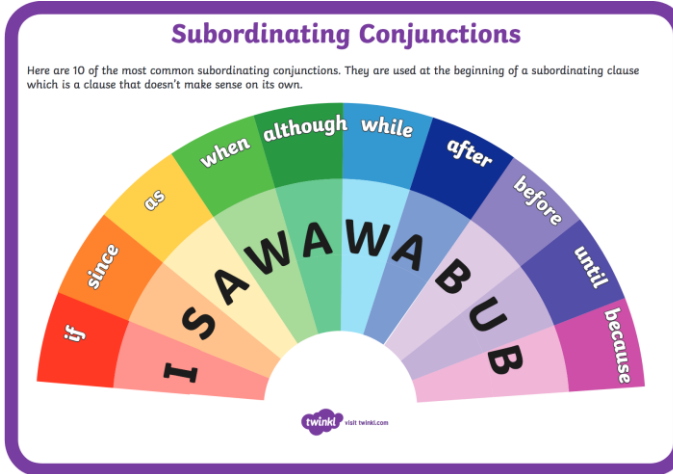
- a) Jack plays rugby _____
- b) Tim likes to draw _____
- c) Flying a kite is fun _____
- d) I love sunny mornings _____
- e) Bathtime is fun in our house _____



Do you use a comma when the main or subordinate clause is first?

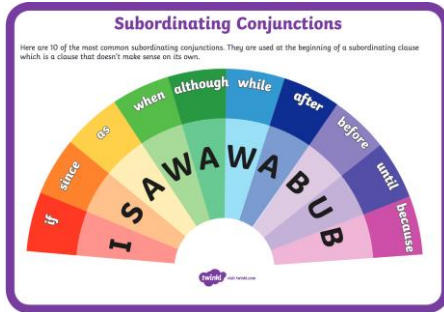
Day 3 – Writing Complex Sentences (using subordinate clauses)

Write your own complex sentences about these pictures with one main clause and one subordinate clause. Don't forget to switch around which clause is first in the sentence! Think about whether the sentence needs a comma or not.



Day 3 – Spotting Complex Sentences (using subordinate clauses)

Whilst reading (which I know you will be doing every day, right...?!), see if you can spot any subordinate clauses and subordinating conjunctions. Remember, a clause must include a subject and a verb so the words below are not always being used as subordinating conjunctions – e.g. After dinner I will tidy my room – 'after' is used as a preposition.



Self Assessment:

How confident do you feel about subordinate clauses?

Not confident

1

2

Okay

3

4

Really confident

5