

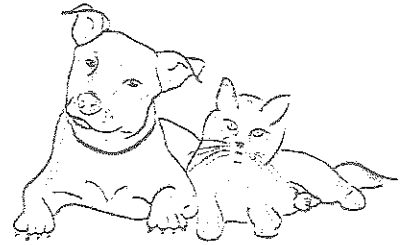
Name _____ Complex Sentences

Complex Sentences

A complex sentence is composed of one main, independent clause and one or more subordinate, or dependent clauses.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES: I like dogs. Marcia likes cats.

A subordinate clause (dependent clause) does not express a complete thought, and must be attached to a main clause.



SUBORDINATE CLAUSES (underlined): I like dogs, although Marcia likes cats.
Although Marcia likes cats, I like dogs.

Underline the subordinate clause in each complex sentence.

1. Without intending to, I broke the crystal vase.
2. The tickets were already sold out when we arrived.
3. The book that I picked out wasn't actually very good.
4. I will clean up the mess since I'm the one that made it.
5. I turned off the oven when I finished baking.
6. The house that I like is for sale.
7. After weighing our options, we decided to adopt.
8. The road which we took was ill-kept.
9. We felt really motivated when the principal encouraged us.
10. The park, where we often go, closes after dark.
11. The woman who stopped us is a friend of mine.

Writing Complex Sentences

Correct the following run-on sentences by making them complex. Underline the dependent clause. Use a **different** subordinating conjunction each time.

1. The teacher announced a pop quiz the class groaned.

2. I finished typing the paper, I proofread it carefully.

3. The fish tank broke so guppies were flopping all over the floor.

You can also turn two short, choppy sentences into a better-sounding complex sentence. Create a complex sentence with the sentences provided. Underline the dependent clause.

1. I finished baking. I turned off the oven.

2. We couldn't go to the beach. The car broke down.

3. The magician did a trick. The audience did not applaud.

Write a **simple** sentence: _____

Write a **compound** sentence: _____

Write a **complex** sentence: _____