Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions are used to join a dependent clause (incomplete thought) to an independent clause.

**Common Subordinating Conjunctions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>after</th>
<th>even if</th>
<th>that</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before</td>
<td>even though</td>
<td>unless</td>
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<tr>
<td>once</td>
<td>if</td>
<td>until</td>
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<tr>
<td>although</td>
<td>if only</td>
<td>when</td>
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<tr>
<td>as</td>
<td>in order to</td>
<td>whenever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as if</td>
<td>now that</td>
<td>where</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as long as</td>
<td>rather than</td>
<td>whereas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as though</td>
<td>since</td>
<td>wherever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>because</td>
<td>so that</td>
<td>while</td>
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<tr>
<td>still</td>
<td>than</td>
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</tbody>
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**Example:** I will be able to drive when I get older.

*I will be able to drive* → independent clause (complete thought)

*when I get older* → dependent clause (incomplete thought)

The subordinating conjunction “when” is used to join the dependent clause to the independent clause.

**Directions:** please fill in the blanks using the appropriate conjunction. Use commas where necessary.

1. He behaves __ __ he rules the world.
2. We started moving _____ he took his foot off the brake.
3. I am going to go _____ __ my parents say I can’t.
4. _________ _____ kill living animals for food, I am going to become a vegetarian.
5. I waited _______ my mom paid for the groceries.
6. I ran _____________ I was scared.

7. We will go running _____ we tie our shoes.

8. We can eat lunch ___________ you like.

9. _______________ I get happy I smile.

10. I’m not leaving _______ you say you’re sorry.

11. We cannot go skiing __________ we have skis.

12. I turned the key __ _______ __ start the car.

13. I want to go ________ money grows on trees.

14. We got to the scene of the crime right _______ the robbers ran away.

15. ___ we can’t find work here, we’ll have to move to a place _______ we can.

16. ________________ I am only 5’3” tall, I ________ love playing basketball.

17. ________________ you finish eating your vegetables, you may eat cake.

18. _____________ ___ complain about not being able to do the things I want, I will work to achieve my dreams.

19. _____ _________ it is cold out, I’m not going to wear my jacket.

20. We will start work ________ the sun rises.

Directions: Now practice creating your own sentences using the conjunctions list above.

1. ______________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________________________

4. _______________________________________
   _________________________________

5. ______________________________________________________________________