Sentence Connection Sort

Find sentences that connect two complete ideas.

3.L.GC.1.39 "Grammar: Use subordinating conjunctions to join clauses. (Introduce)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

TWO IDEAS CONNECTED

A subordinating conjunction is a joining word, like because, if, when, or although. It connects two complete ideas to make a complete sentence.

Since the sun set, Omar lit a lantern.

NEEDS ANOTHER IDEA

A joining word is there, but it does not connect two complete ideas. The reader is left waiting to hear what happens.

While the rabbit hid under a bush.

1 SORT

8 items

For each item, circle CONNECTED or NEEDS MORE, then choose two items, one from each group, and tell how you knew.

1.	After the game ended, Dad drove us home.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
2.	Because I forgot my lunch.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
3.	We will paint the sign when the shop opens.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
4.	Although the puppy was small, it barked loudly.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
5.	If the cookies are ready.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
6.	Before the movie began.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
7.	I wore boots because the path was muddy.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE
8.	When the wind slowed, the kite rose again.	CONNECTED	NEEDS MORE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new CONNECTED sentence and one new NEEDS MORE sentence.

CONNECTED _____

NEEDS MORE _____

CHALLENGE

Write a complete sentence that begins with a joining word and uses a comma after the first idea.

ANSWER KEY

Sentence Connection Sort

GRADE 3 · 3.L.GC.1.39

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	After the game ended, Dad drove us home.	**CONNECTED**	After joins the idea that the game ended with the complete idea that Dad drove home.
2	Because I forgot my lunch.	**NEEDS MORE**	Because starts a joining word phrase, but the sentence does not tell what happened because of the forgotten lunch.
3	We will paint the sign when the shop opens.	**CONNECTED**	When joins the complete ideas about painting the sign and the shop opening.
4	Although the puppy was small, it barked loudly.	**CONNECTED**	Although joins the idea that the puppy was small with the complete idea that it barked loudly.
5	If the cookies are ready.	**NEEDS MORE**	If starts a joining word phrase, but the sentence does not tell what will happen if the cookies are ready.
6	Before the movie began.	**NEEDS MORE**	Before starts a joining word phrase, but the sentence does not tell what happened before the movie began.
7	I wore boots because the path was muddy.	**CONNECTED**	Because joins the complete ideas about wearing boots and the muddy path.
8	When the wind slowed, the kite rose again.	**CONNECTED**	When joins the idea that the wind slowed with the complete idea that the kite rose again.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CONNECTED**: Although the soup was hot, Lena took a small sip.
- **NEEDS MORE**: Because the train was late.

Challenge: If the clouds clear, we will see the stars.

Sort answers: 1 CONNECTED, 2 NEEDS MORE, 3 CONNECTED, 4 CONNECTED, 5 NEEDS MORE, 6 NEEDS MORE, 7 CONNECTED, 8 CONNECTED. In Part 2, students should explain whether the joining word connects two complete ideas or leaves the sentence needing another idea.