

Clause Connection Check

Sort complete clause joins from fragments.

4.L.GC.1.39 "Grammar: Use subordinating conjunctions to join clauses. (Continue)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

COMPLETE JOIN

A complete sentence has an independent clause and a dependent clause joined by a subordinating conjunction. It tells a whole thought.

Unless the dragon sleeps, the villagers will hide.

FRAGMENT

A fragment may begin with a subordinating conjunction, but it does not have an independent clause. It does not tell a whole thought.

Until the river freezes.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

For Part 1, circle COMPLETE or FRAGMENT for each item; for Part 2, choose two items and explain how you knew which category each belongs in.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Because the trail was muddy, we wore boots. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 2. I packed my lunch before the bus arrived. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 3. When the bell rang. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 4. Since Mia practiced daily, she learned the song. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 5. If the wind becomes stronger. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 6. Although the bakery opened early. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 7. We stayed inside while the hail fell. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |
| 8. After the parade ended. | ☐ COMPLETE | ☐ FRAGMENT |

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 COMPLETE sentence and one new FRAGMENT that begins with a subordinating conjunction.

COMPLETE _____

FRAGMENT _____

CHALLENGE

Write a COMPLETE sentence that begins with a dependent clause, uses a comma, and uses a subordinating conjunction not used in Part 1.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Because the trail was muddy, we wore boots.	COMPLETE	It has a dependent clause and an independent clause joined by because.
2	I packed my lunch before the bus arrived.	COMPLETE	It has an independent clause and a dependent clause joined by before.
3	When the bell rang.	FRAGMENT	It has only a dependent clause and does not tell a whole thought.
4	Since Mia practiced daily, she learned the song.	COMPLETE	It has a dependent clause and an independent clause joined by since.
5	If the wind becomes stronger.	FRAGMENT	It has only a dependent clause and needs an independent clause.
6	Although the bakery opened early.	FRAGMENT	It has only a dependent clause and does not tell a whole thought.
7	We stayed inside while the hail fell.	COMPLETE	It has an independent clause and a dependent clause joined by while.
8	After the parade ended.	FRAGMENT	It has only a dependent clause and needs an independent clause.

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)

- **COMPLETE:** Whenever the library closes, Dad picks me up.
- **FRAGMENT:** If the paint dries.

Challenge: Whenever the library closes, Dad picks me up.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify whether the item has both a dependent clause and an independent clause. Part 3 and the challenge may have many correct answers if the clause structure and punctuation are correct.