Conjunction Clues

Sort sentences by how their ideas connect.

C.5.2.d "Use grade-appropriate conjunctions to develop text structure within sentences."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CAUSE AND EFFECT

A cause-and-effect conjunction connects a reason with its result. **Because** introduces a reason, and **so** introduces a result.

The kitten hid because thunder rumbled.

CONTRAST

A contrast conjunction connects ideas that differ in a surprising way. **But** and **although** can show contrast.

Although the scarf looked warm, it felt thin.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CAUSE or CONTRAST for each sentence, then choose two item numbers and explain how each conjunction helped you decide.

1. Mia wore boots because the trail was muddy. CAUSE CONTRAST

2. The bell rang, so the class lined up. CAUSE CONTRAST

3. The box was heavy, but Lena carried it alone. CAUSE CONTRAST

4. Because the air was chilly, Dad closed the window. CAUSE CONTRAST

5. The team practiced hard, but they lost the game. CAUSE CONTRAST

6. Although the map was old, its directions were accurate. CAUSE CONTRAST

7. The pitcher tipped, so water spilled across the floor. CAUSE CONTRAST

8. The lights went out because a storm damaged the wires. CAUSE CONTRAST

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 sentence with a cause-and-effect conjunction and one new sentence with a contrast conjunction.

CAUSE _____

CONTRAST _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that uses both a cause-and-effect conjunction and a contrast conjunction, and underline both conjunctions.

ANSWER KEY

Conjunction Clues

GRADE 5 · C.5.2.d

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Mia wore boots because the trail was muddy.	**CAUSE**	Because introduces the muddy trail as the reason Mia wore boots.
2	The bell rang, so the class lined up.	**CAUSE**	So introduces lining up as the result of the bell ringing.
3	The box was heavy, but Lena carried it alone.	**CONTRAST**	But contrasts the box's weight with Lena carrying it alone.
4	Because the air was chilly, Dad closed the window.	**CAUSE**	Because introduces the chilly air as the reason Dad closed the window.
5	The team practiced hard, but they lost the game.	**CONTRAST**	But contrasts the team's hard practice with its loss.
6	Although the map was old, its directions were accurate.	**CONTRAST**	Although contrasts the map's age with the accuracy of its directions.
7	The pitcher tipped, so water spilled across the floor.	**CAUSE**	So introduces the spill as the result of the pitcher tipping.
8	The lights went out because a storm damaged the wires.	**CAUSE**	Because introduces the damaged wires as the reason the lights went out.

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)

- **CAUSE**: We canceled the picnic because the rain started.
- **CONTRAST**: The soup was hot, but I ate it quickly.

Challenge: Although the museum was crowded, I stayed because the exhibit was fascinating.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the conjunction and describe how it connects the ideas. For example, item 2 uses so to show what happened after the bell rang, while item 5 uses but to show an unexpected result.