Garden Sentence Plans

Notice how conjunctions connect ideas in a project plan.

6.10.D.vi "subordinating conjunctions to form complex sentences and correlative conjunctions such as either/or and neither/nor;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each subordinating conjunction in the passage. Circle each correlative conjunction pair, then draw a line between the two words in each pair to show how they connect ideas.

A Rain Garden Plan

1. Our science club planned a rain garden beside the school parking lot. Because rainwater can carry soil and oil into storm drains, the garden will slow and filter runoff. We chose native flowers because their roots help hold the soil in place. Although the area looks dry today, it becomes muddy after heavy storms. The club measured the space carefully before we drew a map in the library after school during our first meeting last Tuesday.

2. First, the club must choose between seeds and young plants. Either choice can work if the plants grow naturally in our region. We will select either purple coneflowers or swamp milkweed for the sunny edge. Neither plastic decorations nor bright lights belong in the garden, since they could disturb insects at night. While the adults review our plan, students will make signs that explain how the garden protects nearby streams from pollution after heavy spring and summer rainstorms.

3. After the garden is planted, volunteers will water it during dry weeks. If weeds appear, we will pull them before they crowd the young flowers. The garden will need neither daily mowing nor chemical sprays, so it should be easier to care for than a lawn. When classes visit, guides can show either the deep roots or the insects that use the flowers. Since the project will change with each season, our club will keep notes and improve the plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What subordinating conjunction begins the second sentence of paragraph 1?

2. Which correlative conjunction pair joins the two flower choices in paragraph 2?

3. In paragraph 2, what two items are connected by neither/nor?

4. Copy the dependent clause from this sentence: “While the adults review our plan, students will make signs.” Explain why it is dependent.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about a school outdoor project. First, write a complex sentence that begins with a subordinating conjunction. Then, write a sentence using either/or or neither/nor to connect matching ideas. Then check your draft: does the subordinating conjunction join a dependent clause to a complete main clause, and does the correlative pair join matching ideas? Keep correct usage or correct it as needed; explain one decision in a separate checking note.

ANSWER KEY # Garden Sentence Plans

GRADE 6 · TEKS 6.10.D.vi

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each subordinating conjunction in the passage. Circle each correlative conjunction pair, then draw a line between the two words in each pair to show how they connect ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What subordinating conjunction begins the second sentence of paragraph 1?	**Because**
2	Which correlative conjunction pair joins the two flower choices in paragraph 2?	**either/or**
3	In paragraph 2, what two items are connected by neither/nor?	**plastic decorations and bright lights**
4	Copy the dependent clause from this sentence: "While the adults review our plan, students will make signs." Explain why it is dependent.	**"While the adults review our plan" is dependent because it does not express a complete thought by itself.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Because the shade garden stays cool, we will plant ferns near the fence. Either students or teachers can refill the birdbath each morning.

Draft check: Keep Because because it introduces a dependent clause followed by a complete main clause. Keep Either/or because both words form a pair joining the matching subjects students and teachers.

Accept underlined subordinating conjunctions used to join clauses, including because, although, before, if, since, while, after, and when. Accept circled either/or and neither/nor pairs only when both words work together as a pair. Assess the actual draft check separately from the original sentence-count requirement. Accept supported retention of correct usage as well as needed corrections; require a convention-based reason, not a manufactured error or full rewrite.