Stream Sentence Signals

Trace how conjunctions connect ideas in a model informational text.

7.10.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 complex sentence that uses a subordinating conjunction. Circle each subordinating conjunction, and draw a box around every correlative conjunction pair to see how the model joins ideas.

Watching a City Stream

1. At the city's river lab, students help track water quality in a nearby stream. Although the stream looks clear on some days, scientists test it because clear water can still carry pollution. Each week, volunteers collect samples before classes begin. They record the water temperature when they arrive and measure dissolved oxygen, a gas needed by fish. The team uses either paper test strips or electronic sensors, depending on the measurement. Neither muddy boots nor cold rain stops the group from finishing its careful work.

2. Results can change quickly after a heavy storm washes soil from streets into the stream. Since extra soil blocks sunlight, tiny water plants may grow more slowly. Fish can struggle if oxygen levels fall, so the lab shares its findings with city workers. The workers check both storm drains and construction sites for loose soil. If a problem appears, they can add barriers or change a work plan. The goal is neither to blame people nor to close useful projects, but to keep the stream healthy.

3. Careful records help the city notice patterns over time. When summer temperatures rise, warm water holds less dissolved oxygen than cooler water does. The lab compares readings from several dates so that scientists can spot a brief or repeated low result. Neither one unusual test nor one volunteer's opinion is enough to prove a lasting change. However, the group can investigate further if several readings point to the same concern. Their reports help residents choose either safer habits or community projects to protect water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the sentence in paragraph 1 that begins with a subordinating conjunction. Then name the conjunction.

2. In paragraph 2, what relationship does Since show between extra soil and the growth of tiny water plants?

3. What two choices are connected by either/or in paragraph 1?

4. In paragraph 3, identify the correlative conjunction pair and the two things it connects in the sentence about proof.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about observing something outdoors. Include two complex sentences that use two different subordinating conjunctions and one sentence that uses either/or or neither/nor. Then check your draft: does each subordinating conjunction join a dependent clause to a complete main clause, and does the correlative pair join matching structures? Keep correct usage or correct it as needed; explain one decision in a separate checking note.

ANSWER KEY

Stream Sentence Signals

GRADE 7 · TEKS 7.10.D.vi

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each complex sentence that uses a subordinating conjunction. Circle each subordinating conjunction, and draw a box around every correlative conjunction pair to see how the model joins ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the sentence in paragraph 1 that begins with a subordinating conjunction. Then name the conjunction.	**"Although the stream looks clear on some days, scientists test it because clear water can still carry pollution." The conjunction is although.**
2	In paragraph 2, what relationship does Since show between extra soil and the growth of tiny water plants?	**It shows cause. Extra soil blocks sunlight, so tiny water plants may grow more slowly.**
3	What two choices are connected by either/or in paragraph 1?	**Paper test strips and electronic sensors.**
4	In paragraph 3, identify the correlative conjunction pair and the two things it connects in the sentence about proof.	**Neither/nor connects one unusual test and one volunteer's opinion.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Although the soil felt dry, Maya waited for the teacher to test it. When the rain began, the class covered the seed trays. The class will use either a watering can or a hose tomorrow.

Draft check: Keep Although and When because their introductory dependent clauses each have a complete main clause and a separating comma. Keep either/or because the pair joins the matching noun phrases a watering can and a hose.

For the writing task, accept any three clear sentences that use two different subordinating conjunctions correctly and one correctly matched correlative pair. Require an actual learner draft check with a convention-based retain/correct reason. Accept correct usage without forced changes; assess the separate checking note outside the original three-sentence composition requirement.