

Planting Connections

Read a model and track how dependent ideas join main ideas.

5.11.D.viii "subordinating conjunctions to form complex sentences;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each subordinating conjunction. Underline the dependent clause that begins with it.

Restoring Maple Creek Park

- ① Before volunteers arrived at Maple Creek Park, the field was covered with tall weeds and litter. The group brought gloves, trash bags, and native seed packets. Because native plants have deep roots, they can help hold soil in place. The volunteers worked carefully while a park ranger explained the best planting spots beside the winding creek.
- ② After the litter was gone, volunteers loosened the ground with hand tools. They planted milkweed, coneflowers, and little bluestem because these species are native to many prairie areas. Although the afternoon grew warm, the group kept working. A student carried water for the new plants so that their roots would not dry out during the first days.
- ③ When the workday ended, the field looked cleaner and more open. The ranger asked volunteers to return in spring, since new plants need time and care. If the seeds sprout, butterflies and bees will find food there. The group began a habitat project at Maple Creek Park through planning, work, and regular care by people working together.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Copy the dependent clause that begins with Before in paragraph 1.

2 Which subordinating conjunction introduces the reason native plants can help hold soil in place?

3 What two ideas does so that connect in paragraph 2?

4 Copy the dependent clause that begins with If in paragraph 3.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three connected complex sentences about making a school space better. Use a different subordinating conjunction in each sentence from this list: before, because, although, if, when. Circle each conjunction and underline its dependent clause.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each subordinating conjunction. Underline the dependent clause that begins with it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the dependent clause that begins with Before in paragraph 1.	Before volunteers arrived at Maple Creek Park
2	Which subordinating conjunction introduces the reason native plants can help hold soil in place?	Because
3	What two ideas does so that connect in paragraph 2?	A student carried water for the new plants, and their roots would not dry out during the first days.
4	Copy the dependent clause that begins with If in paragraph 3.	If the seeds sprout

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before the garden club met, we gathered gloves and seed trays. Although the ground was hard, we dug small holes for seedlings. If the plants get water each week, they will grow beside the walkway.

Accept dependent clauses that include the subordinating conjunction, subject, and verb. In the sample, underscores show underlining and marks show circling; accept any three complete complex sentences with different listed conjunctions and accurate markings.