

Clause Check

Sort complete complex sentences from sentences that need revision.

8.10.D.i "complete complex sentences with subject-verb agreement and avoidance of splices, run-ons, and fragments;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

COMPLETE COMPLEX SENTENCE

A complete complex sentence has one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. Its subjects and verbs agree, and its clauses are joined correctly.

Although the comet looked faint, it appeared clearly through the telescope.

NEEDS REVISION

This item has an error, such as a fragment, a run-on, a comma splice, or a subject-verb agreement mistake. A comma splice joins two complete thoughts with only a comma.

The kayak tipped over, the campers swam to shore.

1 SORT

8 items

For each item, circle COMPLETE or REVISE, then choose two items and explain which sentence part, punctuation mark, or verb form helped you decide.

- | | | | |
|----|---|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | Because the batteries were dead, the flashlight would not turn on. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 2. | When the museum opened its new wing, many visitors arrived early. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 3. | After the dancers practiced after school, they performed confidently at the festival the crowd cheered. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 4. | Since the bridge repairs began last week, causing traffic delays. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 5. | Because the recipe includes fresh herbs, it tastes bright and savory, the judges chose it. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 6. | While the storm moved offshore, the waves became calmer. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 7. | Although the collection of old maps are valuable, it is stored in a locked cabinet. | COMPLETE | REVISE |
| 8. | If the principal approves the plan, the robotics club will order new parts. | COMPLETE | REVISE |

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 complex sentence and one new item that needs revision because of a fragment, run-on, comma splice, or subject-verb agreement error.

COMPLETE

REVISE

CHALLENGE

Revise this draft into one complete complex sentence: The volunteers were tired after the cleanup, they stayed to stack the chairs.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Because the batteries were dead, the flashlight would not turn on.	COMPLETE	A dependent clause is correctly joined to an independent clause, and the singular subject flashlight matches would turn.
2	When the museum opened its new wing, many visitors arrived early.	COMPLETE	The dependent clause When the museum opened its new wing is correctly joined to the independent clause many visitors arrived early.
3	After the dancers practiced after school, they performed confidently at the festival the crowd cheered.	REVISE	This is a run-on because the independent clause the crowd cheered is not correctly separated from the sentence before it.
4	Since the bridge repairs began last week, causing traffic delays.	REVISE	This is a fragment because it has no independent clause.
5	Because the recipe includes fresh herbs, it tastes bright and savory, the judges chose it.	REVISE	This has a comma splice between the complete thoughts it tastes bright and savory and the judges chose it.
6	While the storm moved offshore, the waves became calmer.	COMPLETE	The dependent clause is correctly joined to the independent clause, and the plural subject waves matches became.
7	Although the collection of old maps are valuable, it is stored in a locked cabinet.	REVISE	The subject collection is singular, so it needs the singular verb is, not are.
8	If the principal approves the plan, the robotics club will order new parts.	COMPLETE	The dependent if clause is correctly joined to an independent clause, and the singular subject principal matches approves.

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:** While the paint dried, the artists cleaned their brushes.
- **REVISE:** Although the library was closed for repairs.

Challenge: Although the volunteers were tired after the cleanup, they stayed to stack the chairs.

Complete: 1, 2, 6, 8. Revise: 3, 4, 5, 7. For Part 2, accept explanations that accurately identify a dependent clause, missing independent clause, run-on, comma splice, or agreement error.