Linking Ideas Lab

Sort sentences by how they connect ideas.

10.LU.1.D "Use subordination, coordination, apposition, and other devices to indicate the relationship between ideas clearly."

NAME _____ DATE _____

EQUAL IDEAS

A coordinating conjunction joins two independent clauses that have equal importance. Words such as and, but, so, and yet can show this relationship.

The gardener watered the seedlings, and the soil darkened.

DEPENDENT IDEAS

A subordinating word makes one clause depend on the other clause. Words such as because, although, since, and when can show time, cause, or contrast.

Because the river rose, the ferry stopped running.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, then circle EQUAL or DEPENDENT to show how its ideas are connected.

1. The archive closed early because the storm damaged its roof. EQUAL DEPENDENT
2. Although the battery was low, Maya finished the recording. EQUAL DEPENDENT
3. The debate team practiced, and its coach timed the speeches. EQUAL DEPENDENT
4. Since the trail was muddy, hikers wore boots. EQUAL DEPENDENT
5. The bell rang, so students packed their backpacks. EQUAL DEPENDENT
6. The composer revised the score, but the finale still sounded rushed. EQUAL DEPENDENT
7. When the lights dimmed, the audience fell silent. EQUAL DEPENDENT
8. The bus arrived late, yet no one missed the first scene. EQUAL DEPENDENT

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 EQUAL ideas and one new sentence with DEPENDENT ideas.

EQUAL _____

DEPENDENT _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one EQUAL sentence from Part 1 and rewrite it with a dependent clause while keeping the same basic meaning.

ANSWER KEY # Linking Ideas Lab

GRADE 10 · 10.LU.1.D

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The archive closed early because the storm damaged its roof.	**DEPENDENT**	Because introduces a dependent clause that gives the cause.
2	Although the battery was low, Maya finished the recording.	**DEPENDENT**	Although introduces a dependent clause that shows contrast.
3	The debate team practiced, and its coach timed the speeches.	**EQUAL**	And joins two independent clauses of equal importance.
4	Since the trail was muddy, hikers wore boots.	**DEPENDENT**	Since introduces a dependent clause that gives the reason.
5	The bell rang, so students packed their backpacks.	**EQUAL**	So joins two independent clauses and shows a result.
6	The composer revised the score, but the finale still sounded rushed.	**EQUAL**	But joins two independent clauses and shows contrast.
7	When the lights dimmed, the audience fell silent.	**DEPENDENT**	When introduces a dependent clause that shows time.
8	The bus arrived late, yet no one missed the first scene.	**EQUAL**	Yet joins two independent clauses and shows contrast.

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)

- **EQUAL**: The microscope focused clearly, and the image filled the screen.
- **DEPENDENT**: After the timer beeped, the volunteers recorded the results.

Challenge: Because the bell rang, students packed their backpacks.

For Part 2, accept explanations that correctly identify the connector and describe equal clauses or a dependent clause. In the challenge, students may change the order of clauses if the meaning and relationship remain clear.