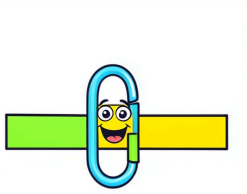
Name & Surname: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

# Super Sentence Linkers

Use when, if, because and although



About 40 minutes Level ★★★☆☆

## What is a subordinating conjunction?

A **conjunction** joins clauses. A **main clause** makes sense alone. A **subordinate clause** needs the main clause.

- when shows **time**: We line up when the bell rings.
- if shows **condition**: We will play outside if the rain stops.
- because shows **reason**: I wore a coat because it was cold.
- although shows **contrast**: We played although the grass was wet.
- It can sit in the middle or at the start: Because it was cold, I wore a coat.



## Task A

/3

**Decide if each line is always, sometimes or never true. Write an example to prove it.**

| Statement | Always | Sometimes | Never |
|---|---|---|---|
| A **subordinate clause** needs a main clause. | | | |
| **Convince me:** _____ | | | |
| A sentence with **when** starts with When. | | | |
| **Convince me:** _____ | | | |
| Although shows the same **link** as because. | | | |
| **Convince me:** _____ | | | |



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# Choose Best Conjunction

Judge which linker fits best and why.

**Key words**

**main clause:** part that makes sense on its own

**subordinate clause:** part that needs the main part to make sense

**conjunction:** joining word for clauses

**when:** shows time

**if:** shows condition

**because:** shows reason

**although:** shows contrast

## Task B

**Read the statement. Make a claim, support it, then ask a question.**

> The sentence 'I wore a coat because it was cold' would be better with although.

**My claim**

I claim that 'because' is best because it shows a reason. Would 'although' show contrast here?

**Support: what I see or know**

**A question I still have**



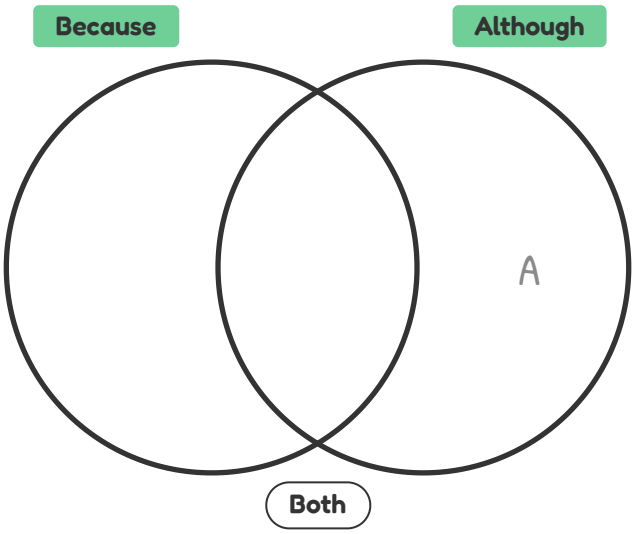
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# Reason or Contrast

Sort uses of because and although.

**↑↓ Task C** Example done for you /5

**Sort each sentence into Because, Although or both. Think about the link.**




**A** ~~Shows a contrast or surprise.~~

**B** Shows a reason for something.

**C** Is a subordinating conjunction.

**D** Fits here: I stayed in ___ it rained.

**E** Fits here: I went out ___ it rained.

**F** Joins a main clause to a subordinate clause.



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# Super Sentence Linkers

## Task D

/3

**Read the clue cards. Cross out the useless clue, then use the rest to answer.**

**Why did the class stay inside at break time?**

Cut out the cards.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Although the sun came out, the grass stayed slippery. | The puddles stayed when the rain stopped. | Because it rained all morning, the playground was wet. |
| The teacher checked the field when the bell rang. | The class can play outside if the ground is dry. | The game will wait if the field is unsafe. |
| The white lines cannot be seen although the sun is out. | A student ate a sandwich when the bell rang. | Shoes sink in mud because the soil is soaked. |

**Your answer, using the clues:**

.....

.....

.....



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# Build and Check

Order the steps then spot facts.

## Task E

Example done for you

/4

**Number the steps in order to build a sentence with two clauses.**

- [ ] Write the main clause that makes sense on its own.
- [ ] Read the whole sentence and fix the full stop or comma.
- [ ] Add the subordinate clause starting with the conjunction.
- [1] Pick two ideas to link, like cold weather and wearing a coat.
- [ ] Choose the best conjunction: when, if, because or although.

## Task F

/5

**Tick fact or opinion for each line. Explain one choice.**

| Statement | Fact | Opinion |
|---|---|---|
| Because shows reason in a sentence. | | |
| When can show time in a sentence. | | |
| Although is the most exciting word to use. | | |
| Everyone loves long sentences best. | | |

**How can you tell that one of them is an opinion?**

.....

.....

## How did I do?

Circle a face for each line.

I can tell a main clause from a subordinate clause. ☹ 😐 ☺

I can use when, if, because and although. ☹ 😐 ☺

I can choose the best conjunction for my sentence. ☹ 😐 ☺



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# Answer sheet: Super Sentence Linkers

**Task A**

1. Always ('If it rains' needs 'we will stay in' to make sense.)
2. Sometimes ('We stop when the bell rings' has when in the middle.)
3. Never (Although shows contrast, because shows reason.)

**Task B**

Answers will vary, e.g. I claim that 'because' is best because it shows a reason. Would 'although' show contrast here?

**Task C**

Because only: B, D
Both: C, F
Although only: A, E

**Task D**

The class stayed inside because the playground was wet and unsafe.
Red herring: A student ate a sandwich when the bell rang.

**Task E**

1. Pick two ideas to link, like cold weather and wearing a coat. 2. Choose the best conjunction: when, if, because or although. 3. Write the main clause that makes sense on its own. 4. Add the subordinate clause starting with the conjunction. 5. Read the whole sentence and fix the full stop or comma.

**Task F**

1. Fact
2. Fact
3. Opinion
4. Opinion

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