

Now that we are experts at the compound sentence, it’s time to move on to the complex sentence. The complex sentence is actually pretty simple, but it’ll require a whole mess of complicated explanation before we get there, so get ready. The complex sentence—like the compound sentence—is a way of joining two sentences. With compound sentences, we join sentences with conjunctions, the FANBOYS words. With complex sentences, we join sentences with words called subordinating conjunctions. Rather than worry about *all* the subordinating conjunctions, we’ll work with sixteen of the most common.

Next, we need to learn how to form subordinate clauses. ***A subordinate clause is a sentence with a subordinating conjunction (one of the fifteen words in our list) added to the front.***

*I went to school on Monday* = independent clause

*Since I went to school on Monday* = subordinate clause

We start with a sentence, and by adding a word we end up with less than a sentence. *Since I went to school on Monday* is not a complete thought, and it cannot stand by itself; it must be attached to another sentence.

Example A: **Since I went to school on Monday,** I was able to take my English quiz. **(SC, SV+)**

Example B: I was able to take my English quiz **since I went to school on Monday. (SV+ SC)**

After So that

Although Though

As Unless

As soon as Until

Because When

Before Whenever

Even though Whereas

If While

Since

When these words start a clause, they CANNOT stand alone. Honestly. Try it!

##### All you need to do is create a complex sentence!

# How can I help a dependent clause?

#### SV+SC or SC, SV+

### Common Subordinating Conjunctions

COMPLEX SENTENCES

Ex: The Ramblers won their football game.

*Since the Ramblers won their football game, they will be going to the playoffs.*

1. English is my favorite subject.
2. I will be successful in school this year.
3. I ran out of laundry detergent.

## Now YOU Try: Create a complex sentence using the independent clause provided.

Use this space to write down the differences between a compound and a complex sentence:

## WITHOUT LOOKING!!!!