**Subordination Errors**

**Subordination Errors Guidelines**

5 pages long (ELC charges 10 cents/page for print jobs)

I. An independent clause contains one subject and one verb, which can be a singular subject and verb or compound subject and verb.

Example: (one subject, one verb)

A ride in the Goodyear blimp is a rare opportunity.

Example: (compound subject, one verb)

A ride in the Goodyear blimp and a tour of Mission Control at NASA are rare opportunities.

Example: (one subject, compound verb)

A ride in the Goodyear blimp is exciting and is rarely offered.

Example: (compound subject, compound verb)

A ride in the Goodyear blimp and a tour of Mission Control at NASA are exciting and are rarely offered.

II. Independent clauses can be joined in one of four different ways:

A. Coordinating conjunctions (and, or, but, nor, yet, etc.)

Example: A ride in the Goodyear blimp is exciting, but a tour of Mission Control at NASA is even more thrilling.

B. Semi-colon

Example: A ride in the Goodyear blimp is exciting; a tour of Mission Control at NASA is even more thrilling.

C. Colon

Example: A ride in the Goodyear blimp excites: a tour of Mission Control at NASA electrifies.

D. Conjunctive adverb

Example: A ride in the Goodyear blimp is exciting; however, a tour of Mission Control at NASA is even more thrilling.

List of commonly used conjunctive adverbs :

consequently therefore however nevertheless

moreover nonetheless furthermore otherwise

likewise indeed in fact at the same time

on the other hand hence thus still

yet instead

III. Dependent clauses likewise contain a subject and verb, either or both of which may be compound. However, dependent clauses begin with a subordinate conjunction or a relative pronoun.

Locate the subordinate conjunction.

List of commonly used subordinate conjunctions:

after before lest though whenever although

that provided that till where as though

as even if since unless whereas as if

how so that until whether if than

when while because that whence in order that

why whose whom which whoever whomever

\*( because of is a compound preposition)

Locate the subject and verb of the dependent clause.

\*The subject may be a pronoun (that, who, which, whoever).

\*The relative pronouns are: that, who, which, whoever

\*Just as “you” is often left out of sentences because it is understood (For example--“Take out the garbage.”), subordinators such as that, who, which, and whoever, may be left out at the beginning of a dependent clause, as in these examples:

• The horse Mr. Lee liked best was named Wrinkles. (Dependent clause underlined. Relative pronoun that left out/understood.)

• I knew I would never win the race . (Dependent clause underlined. Subordinator that left out/understood.)

Compound Sentences

Coordinating conjunctions

, and

, but

Option 1 Independent clause , for independent clause

, or

, nor

, yet

, so

Example - Edward planned to leave for New Orleans next Friday, but he couldn't get airline reservations.

\*\*Note: these seven conjunctions do not make a clause dependent!!!!

Option 2 Independent clause ; Independent clause

Example - ITT Training Center offers a variety of courses in technical skills; most computer repair companies encourage their employees to take advantage of these offerings.

Note - The two independent clauses you are combining in option two need to relate to one another. This also applies to option three.

Option 3 Long conjunctive adverbs

Short conjunctive adverbs

; further,

; however, ; hence

; indeed, ; thus

Ind. Clause ; in fact, or ; then Ind. Clause

; moreover,

; therefore,

; instead,

Example : 1. Our sales through June 30 are about 20 percent under budget; however, we expect to have a strong second half.

Example : 2. Fixed investments such as bonds pay a higher interest rate; thus the investor receives regular payments of principal plus the interest.

SUBORDINATION

Complex Sentences

Note : The subordinating conjunction or the relative pronoun and the dependent clause should be read as one phrase in order to understand their relationship.

Subordinating Conjunctions Relative pronouns

after that

although who

Option 1 as what

because whose

Ind. clause before or whom Dep. clause

if which

since whatever

until whoever

whereas

while

except

whether

though

unless

when

where

as if

as though

as soon as

Example : 1. We will review our progress on this project when Mr. Nielson returns from the West Coast .

Relative pronoun or

Option 2 subordinating + dep. clause , ind. clause

conjunction from

Option 1 list.

Example : 1. While Ms. Bernardo was on vacation , her promotion was approved by the president of the company.

Summary of Options for Combining Clauses :

COORDINATION

, and

, but

Option 1 Independent clause , for independent clause.

, or

, so

, yet

Option 2 Independent clause ; independent clause.

; consequently,

; furthermore,

; however,

; indeed,

Option 3 Independent clause ; in fact, independent clause.

; moreover,

; nevertheless,

; then,

; therefore,

SUBORDINATION

A sentence is complete only when it passes the following three tests:

1. has a subject

2. has a verb

3. has no subordinating conjunction in front of the subject and verb

after

although

as (as if)

because

before

if

Option 4 Independent clause since dependent clause.

unless

until

when(ever)

whereas

while

After

Although

As

Because

Before

Option 5 If dependent clause , independent clause.

Since

Unless

Until

When(ever)

Whereas

While

**Subordination Errors Activities**

4 pages long (ELC charges 10 cents/page for print jobs)

Instructions: Read the Guidelines Sheet for Subordination Errors before you complete the following activities. The Extended Learning Center provides all the books and resources you will need to complete these activities.

Tutoring: You may see a tutor for help with understanding any of the following activities.

Activities:

1. SkillsBank: Complete lesson 9 under Writing; Sentence Structure .

2. Grammar textbook work: Do not write in the textbooks. Either photocopy exercise pages from the text or complete assignments on your own paper (writing short answers whenever possible, rather than copying entire sentences). Check out the annotated text from the resource desk to check your answers.

The Little, Brown Handbook (8 th edition) : Read the first part of section 28c (pages 473-475). From Exercise 5 on page 477, complete the following items: 1-4, 6, and 9.

3. Worksheets: Complete Worksheets B31B, B80, and B31A (the next pages in this document). Use the answer keys, located in the Extended Learning Center, to check your work.

B31 B --INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT CLAUSES

Directions: Underline the dependent clause in each sentence. Insert commas where needed to set the dependent clause apart from the independent clause.

1. The man who was the speaker arrived.

2. Though it was a hard test it was fair.

3. We bought the tires which we needed.

4. Since you are not ready I will go first.

5. As Ruth had expected she had to wait.

6. After classes are over it is time to relax.

7. Marian took the course that she wanted.

8. Tom kept the coat after it had been altered.

9. Until you hear from me you should do nothing.

10. Although I sleep well I still dream.

11. The program ended before I arrived.

12. Unless you get an “A” in the test you will fail the course.

13. It does not matter what Anne said.

14. You can stop talking because I understand.

15. Kathy sings well as I hope to someday.

16. I will go unless you find another friend.

17. He is the one who came late.

B80-- RESTRICTIVE AND NON-RESTRICTIVE DEPENDENT CLAUSES

Directions: Some sentences do not contain commas. Insert commas only where they are needed.

Model: Last year's party, which lasted five hours, was better than this year's party.

1. The people of India who have not lived in poverty for centuries desperately need financial aid.

2. He is a man who thinks for himself.

3. The questions that he did not answer were the most interesting ones.

4. Last night's audience which contained a large number of college students applauded loudly.

5. Lisa discovered many kittens which were Calico in color.

6. Kathy's dog which is a terrier loves to play in my yard.

7. It is a house that is haunted.

8. The problem that was never solved bothers me all the time.

9. My English class which consists of thirty students loves to listen to our teacher speak.

10. She is a woman who knows what she wants.

B31 A--INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT CLAUSES

Directions: Underline the dependent clause in each sentence. Insert commas where needed to set the dependent clause apart from the independent clause.

1. Canada is a modern nation whose history is closely related to ours.

2. It is believed that the Vikings were the first Europeans to reach Canada.

3. Leif Ericson who led his men bravely landed in 1000 A.D. on the Canadian shore.

4. It was four centuries later before another European came to Canada.

5. John Cabot explored Canada in 1497 so that he could report to England.

6. It was in 1605 that the French made the first colony at Nova Scotia.

7. After others heard of the Canadian wealth of furs they came to trade.

8. After France and England signed a treaty in 1763 Canada belonged to England.

9. Although Canada has a small population it is a large country.

10. Most people live in southern Canada because the climate is favorable.

11. Since Canada touches three oceans fishing has been one of its industries.

12. Because Canada produces much wheat it is one of the world's largest grain traders.

13. Since forty per cent of the land is forest Canada ranks high in the lumber industry.

14. Canada is a place where visitors enjoy themselves.

**Practice Test**

**Subordination Errors**

(2 pages, 10 cents/page for print jobs in the ELC)

DIRECTIONS: In the following sentences, determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence represents an independent or dependent (subordinate) clause. Be certain to read the entire passage, not just the underline portions. Mark answers as follows:

“a” if the clause is independent

“b” if the clause is dependent (subordinate)

1) Although training a horse can be very rewarding, it is also very hard work. 2) Where can you get a horse that suits your needs? 3) Many times, you can purchase a racehorse that was not fast enough for the track, or you can purchase a horse from a friend, relative, or horse trainer. 4) The cheapest route is to buy a horse from the track; these horses often cost as little as five hundred dollars. 5) Once you get the horse home, you will need to give it a couple of days to relax and get used to its new environment. 6) In these first few days, you might want to groom your new horse to get to know it, but you do not want to focus on any training. 7) Your horse is transitioning into a very different world. 8) After a week or so, you will want to call out the farrier so that he may re-shoe your new steed. 9) The shoes that are used for racing are very light, usually made of aluminum, and are not suitable for general riding purposes. 10) Even though racehorses are usually in excellent physical health, it is also not a bad idea to have a vet come to do a general check-up. 11) After a week or so, it is time to start re-training your new horse. 12) Don’t expect too much at first; start with lots of walking and trotting. 13) The idea is not to immediately mold the horse into the perfect mount, but to get to know the horse and let him get to know you. 14) When you begin to feel confident with your horse’s performance on the flat, it is time to start jump training. 15) You will want to begin with placing poles on the ground and simply walking and trotting the horse over them. 16) If the horse responds well to this training, you may begin to place a very small jump (less than 2’) at the end of the poles. 17) During this stage of the training process, it is very important to reward the horse often. 18) Although you do not want to overdo, it is equally important to correct the horse for misbehavior. 19) A quick, sharp tap of the riding crop on the hindquarters is the best method to let the horse know when it has misbehaved. 20) The key to horse training lies in a balance between the carrot and the stick.

ANSWERS

1. A

2. B

3. A

4. A

5. B

6. A

7. A

8. B

9. B

10. B

11. A

12. A

13. A

14. B

15. A

16. B

17. A

18. B

19. B

20. A