

Write Complex Sentences

A **complex sentence** has an independent clause and a dependent clause.

- An *independent clause* is a complete thought, and it can stand alone as a sentence.
- A *dependent clause* is not a complete thought, so it can not stand alone as a sentence.

In a **complex sentence**, the dependent clause usually begins with a subordinating conjunction such as **because, if, after, when, since, or unless**. For example:

If it snows today, I will put on my puffy jacket.

dependent clause

independent clause

I watered the plants when I arrived home.

independent clause

dependent clause



Directions

On each line below, write a complex sentence. Circle the dependent clause and underline the independent clause in each sentence.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____
