

Mastering Subordinate Clauses with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To identify, understand, and use subordinate clauses to add complexity to sentences.

Help Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar refine their sentences! Read the questions carefully and remember that a subordinate clause adds extra information but cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.

Answer Key: 1. B; 2. True; 3. Because; 4. A; 5. False (it starts the sentence); 6. B; 7. 'Although it was raining'; 8. A; 9. True; 10. 'which was very shiny'.

Word bank: Subordinate · Conjunction · Relative · Main · Complex · Clause · Information · Because · Although · Which

1. Which of these is a subordinate clause? A) Max ate a banana. B) Because he was hungry. C) The monkey climbed the tree. D) Pip read a book. (1 mark)

2. True or False: A subordinate clause can stand alone as a complete sentence. (1 mark)

3. Fill in the blank to create a subordinate clause: '_____ Pip had finished her book, she started a new one.' (1 mark)

4. Which conjunction is often used to introduce a subordinate clause? A) Although B) And C) But D) Or (1 mark)

5. True or False: A subordinate clause must always come after the main clause. (1 mark)

6. Identify the subordinate clause: 'Max, who loves maths, solved the puzzle.' A) Max, who loves B) who loves maths C) solved the puzzle D) Max solved (1 mark)

7. In the sentence 'Although it was raining, the caterpillar went for a walk,' write down the subordinate clause. (1 mark)

8. Which sentence contains a subordinate clause? A) Since the sun was shining, we went outside. B) The sun shone brightly. C) We played outside today. D) It was a sunny day. (1 mark)

9. True or False: A sentence that contains a main clause and at least one subordinate clause is called a complex sentence. (1 mark)

10. In the sentence 'Pip found a leaf, which was very shiny,' identify the subordinate clause. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey solving a maths puzzle while Pip the caterpillar reads a book under a large leaf. Label the main clause of your scene and the subordinate clause.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why a subordinate clause is sometimes referred to as a 'dependent' clause. 2. Compare and contrast a main clause with a subordinate clause; what makes them different? 3. Justify why we use commas when a subordinate clause starts a sentence. 4. What might happen if we removed all subordinate clauses from a piece of creative writing? 5. Rewrite the following sentence in two different ways by moving the position of the subordinate clause: 'Unless it snows, we will go to the park.' 6. Create your own complex sentence about Nova the owl stargazing that uses a relative clause (e.g., 'who' or 'which').