Mastering Subordinate Clauses with Kit the Fox

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

Help Kit the Fox debug his sentence puzzles! Read each question carefully. Remember: a subordinate clause adds extra information but cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False, 4.Subordinate, 5.B, 6.True, 7.A, 8.False, 9.Although, 10.B. A subordinate clause is a part of a sentence that adds detail but needs a main clause to make sense. When it starts a sentence, we usually use a comma to separate it from the main clause.

Word bank: Subordinate · Conjunction · Main Clause · Relative · Complex · Comma

1. Which of these is a subordinate clause? A) Kit loves puzzles. B) Max ate a banana. C) Because it was raining. D) The fox jumped. (Select one: A/B/C/D)* (1 mark)

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

3. True or False: A complex sentence must contain at least one main clause and at least one subordinate clause. (1 mark)

4. In the sentence 'While Pip read a book, he ate a snack', what is the term for the phrase 'While Pip read a book'? (1 mark)

5. Which conjunction is used to create a subordinate clause? A) And. B) Although. C) But. D) Or. (Select one: A/B/C/D)* (1 mark)

6. True or False: You often need a comma if a subordinate clause comes at the beginning of a sentence. (1 mark)

7. Identify the subordinate clause: 'Nova watched the stars, which twinkled brightly.' A) which twinkled brightly B) Nova watched the stars (Select one: A/B)* (1 mark)

8. True or False: 'After the lesson finished' is a main clause. (1 mark)

9. Fill in the blank: _____ it was late, the lion continued to write his poetry. (1 mark)

10. Where should the comma go in this sentence? 'Before the sun set the bees returned to the hive.' A) After 'sun' B) After 'set' C) After 'bees' (Select one: A/B/C)* (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Kit the Fox sitting at a desk with a computer, surrounded by speech bubbles containing different subordinate clauses like 'if I finish my work' and 'as the sun goes down'.

Extension challenge: Write three complex sentences about your favourite hobby. Ensure each sentence contains one main clause and one subordinate clause, and highlight the subordinating conjunction you used.