8.2 Complex Sentences: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 For each sentence, identify (i) the subordinate clause and (ii) the subordinating conjunction that introduces it.

(a) Since the storm knocked out the power, the whole street was in darkness. **(2)**

(b) The dog would not settle until its owner came home. **(2)**

(c) Even though she was nervous, Priya walked onto the stage. **(2)**

(d) We stayed indoors because the wind was too strong. **(2)**

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2 Combine each pair of simple sentences into ONE complex sentence, using the subordinating conjunction given.

(a) Conjunction: 'when'. Sentences: 'The alarm sounded. Everyone left the building.' **(2)**

(b) Conjunction: 'although'. Sentences: 'The exam was difficult. Priya felt confident.' **(2)**

(c) Conjunction: 'because'. Sentences: 'Leo missed the bus. He walked to school.' **(2)**

(d) Conjunction: 'if'. Sentences: 'You practise every day. You will improve quickly.' **(2)**

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3 Embed the extra information into the base sentence as a relative clause, using the relative pronoun given. Add commas ONLY if the information is extra detail that could be removed.

(a) Base: 'The museum has a new exhibition.' Extra information: 'It opened last week.' Relative pronoun: which **(2)**

(b) Base: 'My uncle lives in Leeds.' Extra information: 'He is a chef.' Relative pronoun: who **(2)**

(c) Base: 'The trophy belongs to the team.' Extra information: 'They won the tournament.' Relative pronoun: that **(2)**

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4 Each sentence below is a comma splice (two main clauses wrongly joined by only a comma). Correct each one by turning it into a properly punctuated complex sentence, using a subordinating conjunction.

(a) It was getting dark, we packed up our things. **(2)**

(b) The signal was weak, the call kept cutting out. **(2)**

(c) Amara loves reading, she visits the library every week. **(2)**

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5 Write THREE original complex sentences about a school trip, hobby or everyday event of your choice, one for each type of subordinating conjunction below. Use a different conjunction from the correct category each time.

(a) A complex sentence using a conjunction of TIME (e.g. when, while, before, after, as soon as, until). **(2)**

(b) A complex sentence using a conjunction of CAUSE/REASON (e.g. because, since, as). **(2)**

(c) A complex sentence using a conjunction of CONTRAST (e.g. although, even though, whereas). **(2)**

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6 Write a short paragraph (approximately 80-100 words) describing a day when something did not go to plan. Your writing must include: one complex sentence with a FRONTED subordinate clause, one complex sentence with an EMBEDDED relative clause, and one complex sentence using a subordinating conjunction of CONTRAST. Do not use any sentence fragments or comma splices. Underline each of the three required features in your answer.

(10)

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Mark scheme · 8.2 Complex Sentences: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) subordinate clause: 'Since the storm knocked out the power' **B1**

(a) conjunction: 'Since' **B1**

(a) Answer: **Subordinate clause: 'Since the storm knocked out the power'; conjunction: 'Since'**

(b) subordinate clause: 'until its owner came home' **B1**

(b) conjunction: 'until' **B1**

(b) Answer: **Subordinate clause: 'until its owner came home'; conjunction: 'until'**

(c) subordinate clause: 'Even though she was nervous' **B1**

(c) conjunction: 'Even though' **B1**

(c) Answer: **Subordinate clause: 'Even though she was nervous'; conjunction: 'Even though'**

(d) subordinate clause: 'because the wind was too strong' **B1**

(d) conjunction: 'because' **B1**

(d) Answer: **Subordinate clause: 'because the wind was too strong'; conjunction: 'because'**

Question 2

(a) 'when' used to join the two clauses, oe **B1**

(a) resulting sentence grammatically complete and correctly punctuated, cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **When the alarm sounded, everyone left the building.**

(b) 'although' used to join the two clauses, oe **B1**

(b) resulting sentence grammatically complete and correctly punctuated, cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **Although the exam was difficult, Priya felt confident.**

(c) 'because' used to join the two clauses, oe **B1**

(c) resulting sentence grammatically complete and correctly punctuated (no comma needed with the subordinate clause at the end), cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **Leo walked to school because he missed the bus.**

(d) 'if' used to join the two clauses, oe **B1**

(d) resulting sentence grammatically complete and correctly punctuated, cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **If you practise every day, you will improve quickly.**

Question 3

(a) relative clause 'which opened last week' correctly embedded using 'which' **B1**

(a) commas correctly used on both sides, since the information is extra and could be removed, cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The museum, which opened last week, has a new exhibition.**

(b) relative clause 'who is a chef' correctly embedded using 'who' **B1**

(b) commas correctly used on both sides, since the information is extra and could be removed, cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **My uncle, who is a chef, lives in Leeds.**

(c) relative clause 'that won the tournament' correctly embedded using 'that' **B1**

(c) no commas used, since the clause identifies which team is meant (essential information), cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **The trophy belongs to the team that won the tournament.**

Question 4

(a) comma splice identified and removed **B1**

(a) correct complex sentence formed with an appropriate subordinating conjunction, e.g. 'As it was getting dark, we packed up our things.', oe **B1**

(a) Answer: **As it was getting dark, we packed up our things.**

(b) comma splice identified and removed **B1**

(b) correct complex sentence formed with an appropriate subordinating conjunction, e.g. 'Because the signal was weak, the call kept cutting out.', oe **B1**

(b) Answer: **Because the signal was weak, the call kept cutting out.**

(c) comma splice identified and removed **B1**

(c) correct complex sentence formed with an appropriate subordinating conjunction, e.g. 'Since Amara loves reading, she visits the library every week.', oe **B1**

(c) Answer: **Since Amara loves reading, she visits the library every week.**

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Question 5

(a) a subordinating conjunction of time used accurately **B1**

(a) complete, correctly punctuated complex sentence, cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **Sample answer (indicative, not the only acceptable response): 'As soon as the final whistle blew, the crowd began to cheer.'**

(b) a subordinating conjunction of cause/reason used accurately **B1**

(b) complete, correctly punctuated complex sentence, cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **Sample answer (indicative, not the only acceptable response): 'Leo brought a spare jumper because the forecast predicted a cold evening.'**

(c) a subordinating conjunction of contrast used accurately **B1**

(c) complete, correctly punctuated complex sentence, cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **Sample answer (indicative, not the only acceptable response): 'Although the queue was long, the entrance to the exhibition moved quickly.'**

Question 6

AO5: Content and organisation (AO5)

Level 1 Simple description of the event; little sense of a clear narrative voice or organisation. **1-2**

Level 2 Some relevant, engaged description of the event; ideas are mostly sequenced clearly. **3-4**

Level 3 Clear, engaging and convincing description of the event in a consistent voice; well organised with a genuine sense of the writer's reactions. **5-6**

AO6: Technical accuracy (control of complex sentences) (AO6)

Level 1 Limited accuracy; the three required features (fronted subordinate clause, embedded relative clause, contrast conjunction) are mostly missing or used incorrectly, and/or fragments or comma splices are present. **1**

Level 2 Most of the three required features are present and mostly accurate, with occasional errors and no more than one fragment or comma splice. **2-3**

Level 3 All three required features are present, clearly marked and used accurately, with no sentence fragments or comma splices. **4**

Indicative content:

- Paragraph uses first or third person and a consistent tense throughout
- A complex sentence with a fronted subordinate clause, correctly followed by a comma
- A complex sentence with an embedded relative clause, correctly marked off with commas where the information is extra
- A complex sentence using a subordinating conjunction of contrast (e.g. although, even though, whereas)
- No sentence fragments: every subordinate clause is correctly attached to a main clause
- No comma splices: every pair of main clauses is joined by a conjunction, semicolon or full stop rather than a comma alone

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