8.2 Complex Sentences: Test Pack

about 20 minutes

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Are the following statements about complex sentences TRUE or FALSE?

(a) A complex sentence must contain a main clause and at least one subordinate clause. **(1)**

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

(b) A subordinate clause can always stand alone as a complete sentence. **(1)**

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

(c) The word 'and' is an example of a subordinating conjunction. **(1)**

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

(d) A relative clause is a type of subordinate clause that gives extra information about a noun. **(1)**

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

(e) When a subordinate clause begins a sentence, a comma should usually separate it from the main clause. **(1)**

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

(f) A sentence containing two main clauses joined by a semicolon is an example of a complex sentence. **(1)**

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

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2 Sort the word bank below into the correct column of the table. Each conjunction belongs in ONE column only.

Word bank: although, because, if, since, unless, when, whereas, as soon as

Time	Cause / Reason	Condition	Contrast

(8)

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3 Choose the subordinating conjunction that correctly completes each sentence.

(a) ___ the ice on the lake was thin, no one was allowed to skate on it. **(1)**

- ☐ A) Because
- ☐ B) And
- ☐ C) But

(b) Tom will not leave the library ___ he finishes his essay. **(1)**

- ☐ A) so
- ☐ B) until
- ☐ C) or

(c) The twins look so alike ___ people often mix them up. **(1)**

- ☐ A) that
- ☐ B) or
- ☐ C) yet

(d) ___ you arrive late, please use the side door. **(1)**

- ☐ A) Although
- ☐ B) If
- ☐ C) So

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4 Below is a paragraph with several errors involving sentence boundaries and complex sentences. Rewrite it correctly, correcting every error you can find.

'although the weather forecast promised sunshine the sky stayed grey all morning. we packed our bags anyway, we were not going to let a bit of cloud ruin the trip. because everyone was so excited. no one wanted to wait any longer, we set off before the rain could arrive.'

(6)

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Mark scheme · 8.2 Complex Sentences: Test Pack

Question 1

(a) True — **B1**

(a) Answer: **True**

(b) False — **B1**

(b) Answer: **False**

(c) False — **B1**

(c) Answer: **False**

(d) True — **B1**

(d) Answer: **True**

(e) True — **B1**

(e) Answer: **True**

(f) False — **B1**

(f) Answer: **False**

Question 2

Time: when — **B1**

Time: as soon as — **B1**

Cause / Reason: because — **B1**

Cause / Reason: since — **B1**

Condition: if — **B1**

Condition: unless — **B1**

Contrast: although — **B1**

Contrast: whereas — **B1**

Answer: **Time: when, as soon as | Cause / Reason: because, since | Condition: if, unless | Contrast: although, whereas**

Question 3

(a) A) Because — **B1**

(a) Answer: **A**

(b) B) until — **B1**

(b) Answer: **B**

(c) A) that — **B1**

(c) Answer: **A**

(d) B) If — **B1**

(d) Answer: **B**

Question 4

Level 0 No accurate corrections made; errors remain uncorrected or new errors introduced. — **0**

Level 1 One or two errors corrected (e.g. capitalisation only), with limited overall accuracy. — **1-2**

Level 2 Most errors corrected, including at least one comma splice and the sentence fragment, with generally secure punctuation of complex sentences. — **3-4**

Level 3 All errors corrected accurately, demonstrating secure control of fronted subordinate clauses, sentence fragments and comma splices throughout. — **5-6**

Indicative content:

- Capital letter added for 'Although' at the start of the paragraph
- Comma correctly added after the fronted subordinate clause 'Although the weather forecast promised sunshine'
- The comma splice between 'we packed our bags anyway' and 'we were not going to let a bit of cloud ruin the trip' corrected, e.g. by adding the subordinating conjunction 'because'
- The fragment 'Because everyone was so excited.' corrected by joining it to a main clause instead of leaving it as its own sentence
- The comma splice between 'no one wanted to wait any longer' and 'we set off before the rain could arrive' corrected, e.g. with a coordinating conjunction such as 'so'
- Overall rewrite uses accurate, varied complex sentences with correct punctuation and sentence boundaries throughout

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