Subordinating Conjunctions

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: A **subordinating conjunction** begins a part of a sentence that cannot stand alone. It tells **why** (because), **when** (when, after, before, while) or **under what condition** (if, unless, although).

Comma rule: If the sentence starts with the conjunction, put a comma after that part: *When it rains, we stay inside.*



1. Choose the conjunction

Circle the conjunction that makes sense.

1. We stayed inside _____ it was raining. — because / unless / before
2. _____ you finish your homework, you can play. — Although / After / Because
3. I will bring an umbrella _____ it rains. — although / until / if
4. Wash your hands _____ you eat. — before / although / because
5. _____ it was cold, we went swimming. — Because / Although / If
6. The dog wags its tail _____ I come home. — unless / although / when
7. We waited _____ the rain stopped. — until / if / although
8. Dad sang _____ he cooked dinner. — unless / while / although

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2. Finish the sentence

Finish each sentence in a way that makes sense.

1. I was late for school because _____.

_____

2. When the bell rings, _____.

_____

3. If I had a pet dragon, _____.

_____

4. After we eat lunch, _____.

_____

5. _____ although it was dark.

_____

Answer Key

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1. Choose the conjunction

1. We stayed inside **because** it was raining. — because | unless | before
2. **After** you finish your homework, you can play. — Although | After | Because
3. I will bring an umbrella **if** it rains. — although | until | if
4. Wash your hands **before** you eat. — before | although | because
5. **Although** it was cold, we went swimming. — Because | Although | If
6. The dog wags its tail **when** I come home. — unless | although | when
7. We waited **until** the rain stopped. — until | if | although
8. Dad sang **while** he cooked dinner. — unless | while | although

2. Finish the sentence

Answers will vary. These are examples.

1. I was late for school because _____.
   I was late for school because the bus broke down.
2. When the bell rings, _____.
   When the bell rings, we line up at the door.
3. If I had a pet dragon, _____.
   If I had a pet dragon, I would fly it to school.
4. After we eat lunch, _____.
   After we eat lunch, we go out for recess.
5. _____ although it was dark.
   We kept walking although it was dark.