Sentences Skills

Complex Sentences Made Easy (cont.)

Directions: Circle the subordinating conjunctions and underline any adverb clauses.

1. Although he was tired, mad, and hungry, the sophomore, a hard working young man, quietly read his textbook, a 5-inch thick tome on American history.

2. Randy loves to read; however, he cannot stand Hemingway.

3. Mr. Johnson’s teenage son has a brand new car even though he does not have a job.

4. When he found out that the price of the buffet did not include a soft drink, Stan settled for a cup of gravy.

5. When Luke made homemade ice cream, he didn’t realize that he had mistakenly added black olives instead of blueberries.

6. Since there are 85 billion different possibilities for the first four moves of a chess game, alternative moves are not hard to find.

7. If you add kiwifruit to gelatin, it will not gel.

8. When he began using his phone book to call random numbers, Joe’s friends knew that he was desperate for a date to the dance.

Sentence Combining: Combine the following sentences into a single complex sentence with at least one adverb clause.

1. Pedro spent all night on it. He was unable to finish his project, a solar-powered toothbrush.

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2. Ron wants to find a cure for the common cold and for hiccups. He then wants to retire and live in Florida.

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3. The teacher announced that the test was cancelled. The class cheered.

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Practice 1: Look over the list of 40 topics on pages 65–67. On a separate piece of paper, write at least eight complex sentences with adverb clauses on one or multiple topics

Practice 2: At random, select a noun and a verb from the lists on page 63, and combine the words by using them in a complex sentence with an adverb clause. You may alter the noun or verb; however, you must use the noun as a noun and the verb as a verb. On a separate piece of paper, write eight simple sentences with eight different random combinations of nouns and verbs.

Bonus: Find an example of a sentence that uses an adverb clause, either in a work of fiction you are reading or in a newspaper or magazine article/ad. On a separate piece of paper, write down the sentence and the author and title of the source from which you got it. Underline the adverb clauses.