# SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

## CEFR Level A1 — Beginners

English Language Worksheets | 4 Worksheets + Answer Key

## Worksheet 1: Clauses That Cannot Stand Alone

Some groups of words are not complete. They need a main sentence.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

**PART A** — **Look and learn**

A main clause is a complete sentence. A subordinate clause is NOT complete — it needs a main clause. Study the table.

| Subordinate clause (not complete) | Main clause (complete) | Together |
|---|---|---|
| because I was tired | I went to bed | I went to bed because I was tired. |
| when it rains | we stay inside | When it rains, we stay inside. |
| that she is kind | I know | I know that she is kind. |
| who lives next door | The man is nice | The man who lives next door is nice. |

*Remember! A subordinate clause often begins with **because, when, if, that, who, which**. On its own it sounds unfinished.*

**PART B** — **Complete or not complete?**

Write C if it is a complete sentence. Write NC if it is not complete.

1. When the bell rings. → _____
2. The children are happy. → _____
3. My father cooks dinner. → _____
4. Because I am hungry. → _____
5. Who plays the guitar. → _____
6. We watch TV. → _____
7. If you are cold. → _____
8. She reads a book. → _____

**Score: _____ / 8**

## Worksheet 2: Finish the Sentence

Add a main clause to make the sentence complete.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

**PART A** **Find the subordinate clause**

Underline the part that is NOT complete on its own.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | I stayed at home because it was raining. |
| 2 | When the film ended, we went home. |
| 3 | She is the girl who sits near me. |
| 4 | I know that you are right. |
| 5 | If you run, you will be fast. |
| 6 | The book which I read was good. |

**PART B** **Add a main clause**

Finish each sentence with your own idea. Write a full sentence.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Because I was tired, _____ . |
| 2 | When I get home, _____ . |
| 3 | If it is sunny tomorrow, _____ . |
| 4 | I have a friend who _____ . |

**Score: _____ / 10**

## Worksheet 3: Choose the Joining Word

because, when, if, that, who, which

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

**PART A** — **Circle the correct word**

Circle the word that makes the sentence make sense.

1. I am happy ( because / who ) it is my birthday.
2. She is the woman ( which / who ) helps me.
3. ( When / That ) the bell rings, we go outside.
4. This is the bag ( which / who ) I like.
5. I think ( that / when ) you are kind.
6. ( If / Which ) you are tired, go to bed.

**PART B** — **Correct the mistakes**

Each sentence has ONE mistake. Write the correct sentence.

1. “Because I was tired.” (not complete)
   Correction: _____
2. “The man which lives here is kind.”
   Correction: _____
3. “When I get home I eat.” (missing comma)
   Correction: _____
4. “I know that you is right.”
   Correction: _____
5. “If it will rain, we stay in.”
   Correction: _____

**Score: _____ / 11**

## Worksheet 4: Writing Practice

Join two ideas into one sentence.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

**PART A** — **Make one sentence**

Join each pair with the word in brackets. Write one sentence.

1. I was cold. I put on a coat. *(because)*
   _____
2. The rain stopped. We went outside. *(when)*
   _____
3. This is my friend. She is very funny. *(who)*
   _____
4. You are late. Please hurry. *(if)*
   _____

**PART B** — **About me**

Write three sentences about your day. Each sentence must have a main clause AND a subordinate clause. Use because, when and if.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

**Score: _____ / 6**

# ANSWER KEY & TEACHER NOTES

## For teacher use only — A1 Level Worksheets

Subordinate Clauses | English Language Worksheets

### Worksheet 1 – Part B (Complete or not?)

| # | Question / Item | Answer / Guidance |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | When the bell rings. | NC — needs a main clause |
| 2 | The children are happy. | C |
| 3 | My father cooks dinner. | C |
| 4 | Because I am hungry. | NC |
| 5 | Who plays the guitar. | NC |
| 6 | We watch TV. | C |
| 7 | If you are cold. | NC |
| 8 | She reads a book. | C |

### Worksheet 2 – Find & Add

| # | Question / Item | Answer / Guidance |
|---|---|---|
| A | Subordinate clauses 1–6 | 1 because it was raining, 2 When the film ended, 3 who sits near me, 4 that you are right, 5 If you run, 6 which I read |
| B | Add a main clause 1–4 | Accept any complete main clause that fits (e.g. ‘Because I was tired, I went to bed.’). 1 mark each. |

### Worksheet 3 – Joining Words & Mistakes

| # | Question / Item | Answer / Guidance |
|---|---|---|
| A | Choices 1–6 | 1 because, 2 who, 3 When, 4 which, 5 that, 6 If |
| B1 | not complete | Because I was tired, I went to bed. (add a main clause) |
| B2 | man which | The man who lives here is kind. (who for people) |
| B3 | missing comma | When I get home, I eat. |
| B4 | you is | I know that you are right. |
| B5 | if it will rain | If it rains, we stay in. (present tense after ‘if’) |

### Worksheet 4 – Writing (model answers)

| # | Question / Item | Answer / Guidance |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | because | I put on a coat because I was cold. |
| 2 | when | When the rain stopped, we went outside. |
| 3 | who | This is my friend who is very funny. |
| 4 | if | If you are late, please hurry. |

| # | Question / Item | Answer / Guidance |
|---|---|---|
| **B** | About me | **Award 1 mark per correct sentence (max 3): each must contain a main clause and a subordinate clause introduced by because, when or if.** |