

Review Exercises on Subordinators

Note to students: These exercises are meant to help you review concepts you have already learned. Before beginning these exercises, you should have learned how to combine sentences and how to use **subordinators**. If you are not already familiar with these concepts, please check with your instructor. You may find a short review of **tutorial 10** helpful. You may also want to use the review sheet included with tutorial 10, available in the Writing Center and English 800 Lab.

Sentence Combining: Part One

Combine the short sentences below into one complete sentence by using a subordinator. **Be sure to write a complete sentence** and **underline** the subordinator. To help you complete this exercise, a word in brackets [] in the second sentence tells you the relationship between the two sentences.

Example:

- a. The “Great War” of 1914-1918 is now called World War I.
- b. [show contrast] It took place mostly in Europe.

Solution: Although it took place mostly in Europe, the “Great War” of 1914-1918 is now called World War I.

Note: Since there is more than one subordinator that shows contrast, there is more than one correct answer for this example and for most of the items below: *even though*, *though*, *whereas*, and *while* are also subordinators that show contrast.

You must write the complete sentence to receive credit for doing the exercises. Be sure to punctuate your sentences correctly.

1. a. [show contrast] There were many factors that lead to World War I.
 - b. Most historians agree that the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand was the most important catalyst.

Solution:

2. a. There was already an enormous amount of conflict between many countries.

b. [show time] Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated.

Solution:

3. a. [show time] The assassination took place.

b. Conflicts between Austria-Hungary, Germany, France, Great Britain, and Russia became much more serious.

Solution:

4. a. [show condition] The assassination had not taken place.

b. It is possible that some other even would have set off the conflict.

Solution:

5. a. But historians still debate.

b. [show condition] It might have been avoided entirely

c. [show condition] Gavrilo Princip, a Serbian nationalist, had not shot the Archduke on June 28, 1914.

Solution:

6. a. [Show contrast] We often imagine that major historical events are carefully planned.

b. The assassination of Archduke Ferdinand seemed almost random.

Solution:

7. a. [Show time] He was killed by Princip.

b. Archduke Ferdinand survived another assassin's attempt on his life on the same day.

Solution:

8. a. [Show contrast] Another assassin threw a bomb at the Archduke's open-top carriage.

b. It bounced off the roof and injured people following the carriage.

Solution:

9. a. [Show cause/effect] This attempt failed.

b. The Archduke seemed to feel he had survived the only attempt that would be made on his life.

Solution:

10. a. [Show condition] His nervous chauffer had not taken a wrong turn.

b. The Archduke would not have ended up face to face with his assassin, who was buying himself lunch nearby.

Solution:

11. a. [Show contrast] It is impossible to calculate exactly how many were killed in the resulting war.

b. About 10 million dead and 20 million wounded is a very low estimate.

Solution:

12. a. At the time, the "Great War" was considered an event too horrible to be repeated.

b. [Show time] World War II began just 20 years later.

Solution:

(Note: Facts for this exercise were drawn from Niall Ferguson's *The War of the World: Twentieth Century Conflict and the Descent of the West* and from *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, 6th Edition.)

Sentence Combining: Part Two

Combine the short sentences below into one complete sentence by using a subordinator. **Be sure to write a complete sentence** and **underline** the subordinator. In this exercise, you will need to figure out what the best relationship is between the two sentences; more than one subordinator and more than one relationship may be correct.

Example:

- a. Not everyone agrees that obesity should be called an “epidemic.”
- b. It is definitely one of the major causes of health problems in the U.S. today.

Solution: Though not everyone agrees that obesity should be called an “epidemic,” it is definitely one of the major causes of health problems in the U.S. today. (Note that *although*, *even though*, and *while* would also work here.)

You must write the complete sentence to receive credit for doing the exercises. Be sure to punctuate your sentences correctly.

- 1. a. Americans exercised more frequently or ate out less often.
- b. It is likely that obesity would be much less of a problem.

Solution:

- 2. a. Author Greg Critser claims that schools are not doing their part.
- b. Major cuts to P.E. funding prevent many schools from having structured physical activities for children.

Solution:

- 3. a. Critser also claims that a change in American culture may have contributed to our increasing obesity.
- b. Americans embraced notions of individual liberty and rejected notions of limits on behavior in the 1960’s and 1970’s.

Solution:

4. a. Overweight individuals must change their own behavior and set their own limits.

b. Fast food companies could also help by not promoting “Super,” or “Biggie,” quantities of their extremely high fat, high sugar-content food.

Solution:

5. a. Government exercise recommendations were reduced in the 1990’s.

b. Most sources recommended at least 15-60 minutes of continuous aerobic activity at least three to five days a week.

Solution:

6. a. The exercise standards were reduced, in part because of poorly designed studies.

b. Americans began to get less and less exercise, with very few getting enough to be healthy.

Solution:

7. a. Many Americans claim they simply don’t have time to get the amount of exercise they need.

b. Critser notes that the average American somehow finds time to watch four hours of television every night.

Solution:

8. a. Fast food consumption is not the only cause of obesity.

b. Studies show that frequent fast food eaters consume double the calories of those who do not eat fast food.

Solution:

9. a. The film “Super Size Me” dramatized one man’s weight gain and health problems from eating McDonald’s large portions.

b. McDonald’s temporarily removed the “super size” option from their restaurants.

Solution:

10. a. You want to avoid the many problems associated with obesity.

b. You should try to eat fresh foods and exercise for an hour at least three times a week.

Solution:

(Note: Facts for this exercise were drawn from Gregory Critser’s book *Fatland: How Americans Became the Fattest People in the World.*)

Final Review Activity: On a separate sheet of paper, write **10 original sentences** with subordinators. In each sentence, underline the subordinators. You should also try varying where you place the subordinators in the sentence: use some at the beginning and others in the middle of sentences.

