

## Objective: TSWBAT write complex sentences

### RULES

- A **complex sentence** contains an independent clause and at least one dependent clause.  
*I watched TV after I ate dinner.*
- An **independent clause** can stand alone. It can be a sentence by itself.  
*I watched TV.*
- A **dependent clause** cannot stand alone. It cannot be a sentence by itself. Use a comma after a dependent clause if it begins a sentence.  
*after I ate dinner.*

Either clause can come first in the sentence.

*After I ate dinner, I watched TV. I watched TV after I ate dinner.*

Underline the dependent clause in each sentence.

1. Unless I have a lot of homework, I usually finish it after school.
2. I get it done early so I can watch TV.
3. Whenever I can, I watch "Biography Tonight."
4. Although I had seen it already, I watched the episode about my favorite writer.
5. Before he wrote books, he was a newspaper reporter.
6. He had wanted to be a writer since he was a teenager.
7. He wrote for the school newspaper until he graduated from school.
8. After high school, he wrote for his college newspaper.
9. Though he was in his twenties, he still enjoyed reporting the news.
10. If you ever wanted to write, you should watch "Biography Tonight."

Homework: Complete Practice and Extend  
Handouts