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Complex Sentences

Remember

A **complex sentence** is made up of one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. A **clause** is a group of words in a sentence that has a subject and a predicate. An **independent clause** gives a complete thought. A **dependent clause** does not give a complete thought.

dependent clause ↓

↓ independent clause

Although the rain stopped, the river continued to rise.

Experts, who are keeping a close eye on the water, told people not to worry.

Think About

How can you tell a dependent clause from an independent clause?

Read and Apply

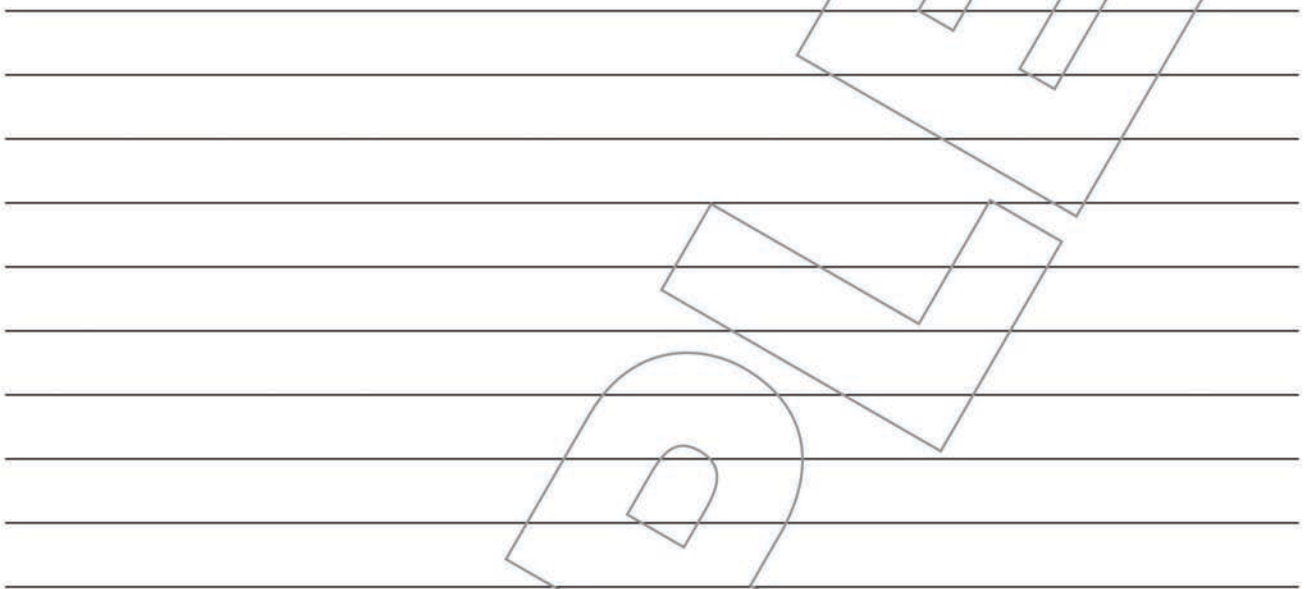
Read the sentences. Underline the complex sentences.

When you spend time outside, you need to protect your skin. Sunburns and suntans are never healthy. Ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun mainly affect your skin because they are not strong enough to penetrate into your body. UVA and UVB rays are two types of UV rays, which can damage skin and cause cancer. The sun can hurt your skin during any season of the year, so it is important to always protect yourself. Try to avoid being outside when the sun is strongest (from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.). Always wear sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15. SPF, which means "sun protection factor," measures how much the sunscreen prevents harmful rays from hurting the skin. Even if you do not see your skin turning red, rays may still be damaging your skin. UVA rays do not cause sunburn, but they can cause wrinkles and hurt your eyes. Be smart when you are outside.



Write About

Write a paragraph about an activity that you enjoy doing outside. Explain how you can protect yourself from the sun while doing this activity. Use at least three complex sentences.



Review

Combine each pair of sentences to make a complex sentence. You may add words and change the order of the sentences.

1. The band played its last song. The audience cheered and called for more.



2. I could not go to the party. I had developed a bad cold.



3. The students met to plan the Spring Fair. Ms. Jenson bought them pizza.

