



Building Complex Sentences with Dependent Clauses ¹

Level: Advanced (C-Level)

Practice 3

Instructions. Based on [this lesson about dependent and independent clauses](#), combine each pair of sentences to build a single, more complex sentence including an independent and a dependent clause. (In some cases, you may be able to [omit the verb “be”](#) in the dependent clause.)

Example 1: The toy has already broken down. We bought it yesterday.

Your sentence 1: The toy (that) we bought yesterday has already broken down.

Example 2: The woman was John’s daughter. I was talking to her at the party.

Your sentence 2: The woman I was talking to was John’s daughter.

Also correct (very formal): The woman to whom I was talking was Professor Ecks’s daughter.

When you are done, see “Answer Key” to check your answers.

1. The mistakes were careless. You made the mistakes on the exam.

Combined sentence: _____

2. The mistakes made it difficult to understand your ideas. You made the mistakes in your essay.

Combined sentence: _____

3. Any cars will be towed away. They are blocking the exit.

Combined sentence: _____

4. The driver was uninjured. The driver crashed into the building.

Combined sentence: _____

5. The last course will be offered in the spring semester. I need to take the course.

Combined sentence: _____

6. Some of the people were uncomfortable with our questions. We interviewed these people.

Combined sentence: _____

7. The ideas can be amusing. Children come up with the ideas.

Combined sentence: _____

8. The cake is an old family recipe. You had the cake at my birthday party.

Combined sentence: _____

9. Two of the experiments yielded interesting results. The researchers conducted the experiments.

Combined sentence: _____

10. The library is now the newest building in town. The tornado destroyed it last year.

Combined sentence: _____

11. Norman Orentreich died in 2019. He was the dermatologist responsible for the development of hair transplants.

Combined sentence: _____

12. None of the planets are similar to the Earth. Astronomers have found these planets so far.

Combined sentence: _____



Answer Key

1. The mistakes you made on the exam were careless.
2. The mistakes you made in your essay made it difficult to understand your ideas.
3. Any cars that are blocking the exit will be towed away.
(omitting "be"): Any cars blocking the exit will be towed away.
4. The driver who crashed into the building was uninjured.
5. The last course (*that*) I need to take will be offered in the spring semester.
6. Some of the people we interviewed were uncomfortable with our questions.
(*very formal*) Some of the people whom we interviewed were uncomfortable...
7. The ideas (*that*) children come up with are amusing.
(*very formal*) The ideas with which children come up are amusing.
8. The cake (*that*) you had at my birthday party is an old family recipe.
9. Two of the experiments (*that*) the researchers conducted yielded interesting results.
10. The library that the tornado destroyed last year is now the newest building in town.
11. Norman Orentreich, (*who was*) the dermatologist responsible for the development of hair transplants, died in 2019.
(*also correct*) The dermatologist responsible for the development of hair transplants, Norman Orentreich died in 2019.
12. None of the planets (*that*) astronomers have found so far are similar to the Earth.

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