

- _____ 7. The phone rang again and again, so the receptionist was not able to get much work done.
- _____ 8. The missing wallet was found, but the cash and credit cards had been removed.
- _____ 9. Or you can drive your car for another 2,000 miles, you can get it fixed.
- _____ 10. The chemist was awarded the Nobel Prize, he flew to Europe to accept it.

SKILL 7: USE ADVERB TIME AND CAUSE CONNECTORS CORRECTLY

Sentences with adverb clauses have two basic patterns in English. Study the clauses and connectors in the following sentences:

I will sign the check *before* you leave.

Before you leave, I will sign the check.

In each of these examples, there are two clauses: *you leave* and *I will sign the check*, and the clause *you leave* is an adverb time clause because it is introduced with the connector *before*. In the first example the connector *before* comes in the middle of the sentence, and no comma (,) is used. In the second example the connector *before* comes at the beginning of the sentence. In this pattern, when the connector comes at the beginning of the sentence, a comma (,) is required in the middle of the sentence.

The following example shows how this sentence pattern could be tested in structure questions on the TOEFL test.

Example from the Paper and Computer TOEFL® Tests



_____ was late, I missed the appointment.

- (A) I
- (B) Because
- (C) The train
- (D) Since he

In this example you should recognize easily that there is a verb, *was*, that needs a subject. There is also another clause, *I missed the appointment*. If you choose answer (A) or answer (C), you will have a subject for the verb *was*, but you will not have a connector to join the two clauses. Because you need a connector to join two clauses, answers (A) and (C) are incorrect. Answer (B) is incorrect because there is no subject for the verb *was*. Answer (D) is the best answer because there is a subject, *he*, for the verb *was*, and there is a connector, *since*, to join the two clauses.

The following chart lists adverb *time* and *cause* connectors and the sentence patterns used with them:

ADVERB TIME AND CAUSE CONNECTORS						
TIME				CAUSE		
<i>after</i>	<i>as soon as</i>	<i>once</i>	<i>when</i>	<i>as</i>	<i>now that</i>	
<i>as</i>	<i>before</i>	<i>since</i>	<i>whenever</i>	<i>because</i>	<i>since</i>	
<i>as long as</i>	<i>by the time</i>	<i>until</i>	<i>while</i>	<i>inasmuch as</i>		
S V		adverb connector		S V		
<i>Teresa went inside</i>		<i>because</i>		<i>it was raining.</i>		
adverb connector		S V,	S V			
<i>Because</i>		<i>it was raining,</i>		<i>Teresa went inside.</i>		

EXERCISE 7: Each of the following sentences contains more than one clause. Underline the subjects once and the verbs twice. Circle the connectors. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- C 1. (Since) the bank closes in less than an hour, the deposits need to be tallied immediately.
- I 2. Their backgrounds are thoroughly investigated (before) are admitted to the organization.
- ___ 3. The citizens are becoming more and more incensed about traffic accidents whenever the accidents occur at that intersection.
- ___ 4. The ground had been prepared, the seedlings were carefully planted.
- ___ 5. We can start the conference now that all the participants have arrived.
- ___ 6. The building quite vulnerable to damage until the storm windows are installed.
- ___ 7. Once the address label for the package is typed, can be sent to the mail room.
- ___ 8. Because the recent change in work shifts was not posted, several workers missed their shifts.
- ___ 9. The mother is going to be quite upset with her son as long as he misbehaves so much.
- ___ 10. Inasmuch as all the votes have not yet been counted the outcome of the election cannot be announced.