Subordinating conjunctions – revisited.

These are words/phrases used to join clauses together.

You are familiar with the terms, ‘subordinate clause’ and ‘main clause’.

You should remember that the main clause can be a sentence on its own whereas a subordinate clause can’t.

The subordinate clause and main clause can be at different positions in a sentence. You can start sentences with either clause.

If a sentence starts with a subordinate clause, a comma is used to separate it from the main clause.

If a sentence starts with a main clause, then a comma is not **usually** used.

Example

**Because** it was raining, I wore my coat. (Note the comma after the subordinate clause.)

I wore my coat **because** it was raining. (No comma.)

Subordinating conjunctions can be put into groups according to their use.

TIME – before, after, whenever, now that, until, since, while

CONTRASTING – although, though, even though, whereas as if, if only

CAUSE AND EFFECT – because, causing, so that, in order that, so

Remember here to get the cause and effect the correct way round.

Example

I put on my hat because it was raining. YES

It was raining because I put on my hat. NO

This will do for now.

Use different subordinating conjunctions to finish these sentence starters. Then try swapping the main and subordinate clauses around, remembering the comma if it is needed.

1. **I hurt my head**

Although I hurt my head

I hurt my head so

Before I hurt my head

I hurt my head after

1. It was snowing heavily.
2. She read her new book.
3. The family got lost on their journey.
4. It was getting late.
5. There was nothing good on the television.

NOW YOU CAN DO SOME YOURSELF.