Commas After Subordinate Clauses

Use a **comma** to separate a **main clause** from a **subordinate clause** in a sentence — but only when the **subordinate clause** comes **first**.

The **main clause** makes sense on its own. It's the **most** important part of a sentence.

While I'm at the gym, I listen to my music.

You don't need a **comma** if the **subordinate clause** is at the **end** of a sentence.

I listen to my music while I'm at the gym.

A sentence with a **main clause** and a **subordinate clause** is a **complex sentence**.

A **subordinate clause** doesn't make sense on its own. It's **less important** than the **main clause**.

1 Add <u>commas</u> in the correct places in the sentences below.

Once ☐ I'd finished eating ☐ I started reading my new book.

As I ☐ got on the bus ☐ I ☐ dropped my bag.

Although ☐ I am scared ☐ of sharks ☐ I love visiting the aquarium.

Rather than ☐ going out ☐ we stayed in ☐ and watched a film.

2 Underline the <u>subordinate clauses</u> and add <u>commas</u> where needed.

While you were distracted I swapped our plates.

You can go to the party as long as you wear something sensible.

Now that you've told me that everything makes much more sense.

Until we've found the solution we'll keep trying to work it out.

I'll come and help you as soon as I can.

Since we're all here I'd like to tell you something.

3 Put <u>commas</u> in the sentences that need them.

I'm really tired because I've been walking all day.

When I realised what I'd done I apologised immediately.

Bob started laughing after we'd told him the joke.

Although I like the album this song isn't my favourite.

As you're older than me you should go first.

4 <u>Rewrite</u> these sentences with <u>commas</u> in the correct places.

Even though it was cold I wanted ice cream.

....

Despite the fact we lost we still had fun.

....

Whereas Tom is calm Tim is always stressed.

....

Before I left the house I turned the lights off.

....

5 Add a <u>subordinate clause</u> to complete each of these sentences. Remember to use <u>commas</u> correctly.

.... I need to ring my sister.

.... Jim wasn't offended.

.... Simon wasn't scared.