Joining words: answers and notes

Practised: joining two ideas with conjunctions (because, when, if, although) that fit the meaning, and breaking up long "and then" chains.

Page 1 · Warm up

1. **because** · 2. **when** · 3. **if**

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Check each ending makes sense with its joining word.

Page 2 · A. Joining words

1. **because** · 2. **if** · 3. **when** · 4. **although**

Page 3 · B. Match the halves

Ava put on her coat **because it was windy.**
The plants will grow **if you water them.**
Sam laughed **when the clown fell over.**

Page 3 · C. Does it fit?

1. **No**: **because** (the rain is the reason).
2. **No**: **because** or **when** (sunshine is no surprise for a picnic).
3. **Yes**.

Page 3 · D. "And then" chain

Answers will vary, for example: **We went to the beach and built a sandcastle. When we were hungry, we ate our lunch. Then we went home.** Check for full stops and at least one joining word.

Challenge: No. "Because" gives a reason: the cold is *why* Leo wore a coat. "Although" shows a surprise, so the new sentence sounds odd: wearing a coat in the cold isn't surprising. "I wore shorts **although** it was cold." works.

Watch out for

- **A joining word that doesn't fit**, like "but" instead of "because". Ask "Is this a reason, a time, a maybe or a surprise?"
- **Long "and then" chains.** Read it aloud and add a full stop where you'd take a breath.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Finish it:** say "I wore my wellies…" and your child finishes it with because, when, if or although.
- **Swap the joiner:** say a sentence, swap its joining word and talk about how the meaning changes.
- **In the game:** this is the last chapter. Play the whole Sentence Express again to use every skill together.