Name _____ Date _____

Joining words

Joining words (conjunctions) link two ideas into one sentence.

1 Learn



A joining word is like the coupling between two carriages. It links two ideas, and tells the reader **how** they go together.

Two ideas: I wore my wellies. It was raining. Why did I wear them?



Joining word	It tells you…	For example
because	why: a reason	I wore my coat **because** it was cold.
when	when: a time	We clapped **when** the show ended.
if	what might happen	You can play **if** you finish your lunch.
although	a surprise	We went out **although** it was raining.

Flip's tip: too many "and then"s make a sentence that never stops. Use a full stop, or a joining word that tells the reader more.

Warm up: draw a ring round the joining word in each sentence.

1. We stayed inside because it was snowing.
2. I smile when I see my dog.
3. Take a coat if it is cold.

Grown-ups: schools call these conjunctions. Ask "Which word links the two ideas?" and "What does it tell us?"

Name _____ Date _____

2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Finish my sentence

You need: four scraps of paper, a pencil and a cup or bowl.

1. Write **because**, **when**, **if** and **although** on the scraps. Fold them and put them in the cup.
2. The grown-up says the start of a sentence, like **"I wore my wellies…"**
3. The child picks a scrap and **finishes the sentence** with that joining word.
4. Does it make sense? If not, talk about which joining word would fit better.
5. Swap: the child starts a sentence, and the grown-up finishes it.

Sentence start	Joining word	Ending

Grown-ups: a funny mismatch is fine! "I wore my wellies if…" can still work: "…if it rains tomorrow." Talk about why.

3 Practise

A. Choose the best joining word from the box. Use each one once.

because **when** **if** **although**

1. I wore sun cream _____ it was very sunny.
2. You can stay up late _____ you tidy your room.
3. I brush my teeth _____ I wake up.
4. We played outside _____ it was cold.

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Scan to play this chapter in the game

Name _____ Date _____

B. Draw a line from each start to the best ending.

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

C. Does the joining word fit? Ring **yes** or **no**. If not, write a better one.

Sentence	Fits?	Better word
I wore my wellies **but** it was raining.	yes no	
We had a picnic **although** it was sunny.	yes no	
I will call you **when** I get home.	yes no	

D. Too many "and then"s! Write this again as two or three sentences.

We went to the beach and then we built a sandcastle and then we ate our lunch and then we went home.

Challenge

Leo changes **I wore a coat because it was cold.** to **I wore a coat although it was cold.** He says it means the same. Is he right? Why?

I can...

Tick when you can.

- [ ] join two ideas with because, when, if or although
- [ ] choose a joining word that fits the meaning
- [ ] use full stops instead of long "and then" chains