

Sample Sentence Combining Exercise

Possible Answers

Combine these sentences into one either compound or complex sentence. The ideas of lesser importance, or those that serve only to support the important ideas, should be put in subordinate clauses.

1. The experiment was poorly designed. It gave us little new information.

The poorly designed experiment gave us little new information.

(This actually a simple sentence, but it may be the most clear and concise option.)

Because the experiment was poorly designed, it gave us little new information. *(complex)*

2. I observed significant damage to the reactor. I recommended immediate evacuation from the area.

After observing significant damage to the reactor, I recommended immediate evacuation from the area. *(complex)*

3. You have chest pains, difficulty in breathing, and nausea. You should see your doctor.

See your doctor immediately if you have chest pains, difficulty in breathing, and nausea. *(complex)*

4. Submit your proposal by the end of the month. We will not be able to bid on it.

Submit your proposal by the end of the month, or we will not be able to bid on it. *(compound)*

Unless you submit your proposal by the end of the month, we will not be able to bid on it. *(complex)*

5. He worked overtime three nights last week. He cannot pay off his credit cards.

Even though he worked overtime three nights last week, he

cannot pay off his credit card. (complex)

Because he cannot pay off his credit card, he worked overtime three nights last week. (complex)

6. The construction workers finished repaving the road. Traffic returned to normal.

After the construction workers finished repaving the road, traffic returned to normal. (complex)

The construction workers finished repaving the road, and traffic returned to normal. (compound)

7. The budget analyst has completed her review of the audit. She reported no problems with expenditures in the last fiscal year.

After completing her review of the audit, the budget analyst reported no problems with expenditures in the last fiscal year. (complex)