U NIT 5
COMPLEX SENTENCES & FRAGMENTS

I. CLAUSE - a group of words that contains a *subject* & *verb*.

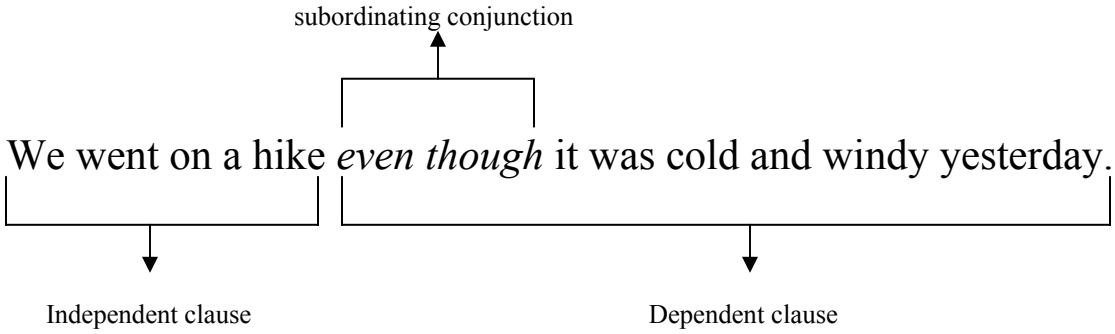
A. INDEPENDENT CLAUSE - a subject/verb combination that expresses a COMPLETE thought. It can stand alone because it is a simple sentence.

complete thoughts ⇒ Paris (subj.) has (verb) excellent art museums.

It (subj.) was (verb) cold and windy yesterday.

We (subj.) finished (verb1) our homework and cleaned (verb2) up the kitchen.

B. DEPENDENT CLAUSES - an independent clause with subordinating conjunction at the beginning. A dependent clause cannot stand alone because it is NOT a complete thought, so it must be attached to an independent clause.



II. SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS - introduce *reasons*, *time*, *contrasts*, and *conditions*.

REASON	**TIME**	**CONTRAST**	**CONDITION**
because	before after when while	although even though	if

III. COMPLEX SENTENCES - contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. The clauses can be in any order, but if the dependent clause is first, put a comma after it.

A. EXAMPLES

- Martha always gets As ***because*** she studies hard.
- ***Because*** Martha studies hard, she always gets As.

- I will quit my job immediately ***if*** I win the lottery.
- ***If*** I win the lottery, I will quit my job immediately.

- We went home ***after*** the dance ended.
- ***After*** the dance ended, we went home.

B. FORMULAS

Simple sentence	**Compound Sentence**	**Complex Sentence**
IC	IC, coord. conj. IC (so, and, or, but)	IC sub. conj. DC DC, sub. conj. IC (because, before, after, when, while, if, even though, although)

IV. FRAGMENTS - a sentence error that is only a PART of a sentence.

FRAGMENTS ⇒ { Because I didn't have the time. / Although I studied for the test. / When she finishes eating dinnner.

They are fragments because they are dependent clauses, and dependent clauses cannot stand alone. Instead, they must be attached to an independent clause.

****CORRECTED****

I didn't take a vacation ***because*** I didn't have the time.
Although I studied for the test, I still failed it.
When she finishes eating dinner, she will watch TV.