A subordinating conjunction is a word that links together an independent clause and a dependent clause. They can help a sentence describe time, cause-and-effect, and place. A subordinating conjunction can be placed in between an independent and dependent clause. It can also be placed in front of a dependent clause.

**Remember!**
- An independent clause is a complete thought or sentence that includes a subject and a verb.
- A dependent clause often has a verb and subject but is not a complete thought.

### List of subordinating conjunctions

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### Examples

**Example 1:**

*Maria likes to go rock climbing, *rather* than swimming.*

- “Maria likes to go rock climbing” → Independent clause (it can be a full sentence alone)
- “than swimming” → Dependent clause (This sentence cannot stand alone because it does not have a subject)
- “rather” links both clauses together

**Example 2:**

*When the police arrive, Detective Johnson describes how the thief broke in.*

- “Detective Johnson describes how the chief broke in” → Independent clause (it can be a full sentence alone)
- “the police arrive” → Dependent clause (This does have a subject and verb, but it cannot stand alone)
- “When” links both clauses together
References