

Activity Type

Reading, writing, listening and matching activity

Language Focus

Subordinating conjunctions

Aim

To play games of bingo by completing sentences on a bingo card with subordinating conjunctions.

Preparation

Make one copy of the bingo cards for every 16 students per round you wish to play. Cut the cards out as indicated. If you have more than 16 students, have some students share a card. Copy one caller's sheet for yourself.

As an alternative or extension, make one copy of the bingo cards and caller's sheet for each group of five.

Level

Intermediate

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this rewarding teaching activity, students play games of bingo by completing sentences on a bingo card with subordinating conjunctions.

Procedure

Give each student a bingo card. Explain that each bingo card consists of five sentences with each sentence missing a different subordinating conjunction.

Tell the students that you are going to call out subordinating conjunctions and that if a student thinks the conjunction goes in one of their sentences, they write it in the corresponding gap in the sentence. When a student has completed all five sentences with a different conjunction, they shout 'Bingo'.

Begin by asking the students to read the five sentences on their card and think about what the missing conjunctions could be.

Then, start calling out subordinating conjunctions from the caller's sheet in a random order. Use a pencil to tick the words you have read out.

When a student shouts 'Bingo', get them to read out all five sentences. Check that the sentences are appropriate and use the conjunctions you have ticked. The caller's sheet contains possible answers. However, some sentences may have more than one correct answer.

If the sentences are correct, the student wins the round. If the student has made a mistake, the game continues.

Play several rounds, making sure students receive a different bingo card each time.

As an alternative or extension, divide the students into groups of five. Give each group a set of 16 bingo cards and a copy of the caller's sheet. One student takes the caller's sheet and the other students take a bingo card each.

The students then play the game in their groups with students taking it in turns to be the bingo caller. The bingo caller reads out subordinating conjunctions from the caller's sheet in a random order, ticking the words in pencil as they go.

When a student shouts out 'Bingo', the caller gets the student to read out all five sentences. If the sentences are correct, the students play a new round with another student taking on the role of the bingo caller. This continues until all the bingo cards have been used.

Subordinating Conjunctions Bingo

Bingo Card A

- _____ whales are protected, they will become extinct.
- Call me _____ you arrive at work.
- You'd better not swim _____ you've just eaten.
- I became very concerned _____ I couldn't find my passport.
- She cried _____ she read the letter.

Bingo Card B

- He has to work hard _____ support his family.
- _____ it rained, everyone had a good time.
- I plan to buy a new car _____ I can afford one.
- _____ I was very tired, I finished writing my essay.
- It was uncertain _____ he would marry her.

Bingo Card C

- I had to walk there _____ my car broke down.
- _____ I clean it, it still won't look new.
- _____ I'm sure I understand you, please repeat what you said.
- I did the washing up _____ the baby was sleeping.
- I only ordered coffee _____ I wasn't hungry.

Bingo Card D

- _____ the laptop was expensive, I bought it.
- She keeps complaining _____ she doesn't have time.
- _____ you begin, you must continue.
- _____ you go to visit her, you should make sure she's at home.
- _____ we find my keys, we can't leave.

Bingo Card E

- _____ the train was very crowded, I had to stand.
- _____ I hear from you, I'll plan to meet you at five.
- _____ you've learnt how to cycle, it's very easy.
- She hired him _____ he really needed the job.
- I suggest we wait _____ Craig gets here.

Bingo Card F

- _____ he was sick, he went to school.
- I got to the bus stop _____ the bus had left.
- _____ it's true, I'll forgive her.
- The wind was so strong _____ the windows rattled.
- _____ I hear that song, I think of my childhood.

Bingo Card G

- She went to see him _____ he was staying in Boston.
- _____ use a computer, you must learn to type.
- I overslept _____ my alarm didn't go off.
- He came to see me three days _____ he left for Africa.
- I enjoyed swimming _____ the water was cold.

Bingo Card H

- I'll call you _____ I get the exam results.
- _____ or not you agree, I think it looks fine.
- I feel more alert _____ drinking a cup of coffee.
- You'll get into trouble _____ your parents find out.
- I'll send you my location _____ you can find my place more easily.

Subordinating Conjunctions Bingo

Bingo Card I

1. _____ you've said something, it can't be taken back.
2. I would appreciate a reply _____ possible.
3. I called a taxi _____ it was raining.
4. _____ he sees me, he pretends he doesn't know me.
5. It will be a long time _____ I can buy a house.

Bingo Card J

1. _____ I was exhausted, I continued to work.
2. He came in _____ I was going out.
3. We will go to the park _____ it rains.
4. I've made some sandwiches _____ we can have a snack on the way.
5. We felt relieved _____ we saw a light in the distance.

Bingo Card K

1. I asked him _____ he would go there the next day.
2. She was very shy _____ she graduated.
3. _____ it was very cold, we went out.
4. The spokesman confirmed _____ the report was true.
5. _____ he was feeling sick, he stayed in bed.

Bingo Card L

1. I'm sorry to interrupt you _____ you're talking.
2. I'll call you _____ I get home.
3. I want you to meet him _____ hear his opinion.
4. I haven't decided yet _____ I'll go to college or get a job.
5. _____ he is over 70, he is still active.

Bingo Card M

1. _____ this job is over, I'm out of here.
2. She kept on talking _____ I asked her to stop.
3. _____ you're hungry, you must eat slowly.
4. I like to go to the beach _____ I get the chance.
5. Mia didn't go to class yesterday _____ she was ill.

Bingo Card N

1. They regarded him _____ the best doctor in town.
2. I finished reading the book, _____ it was very long.
3. It would be fantastic _____ you could come to the party.
4. I'll go by car _____ I can take more luggage.
5. Paul wasn't sure _____ to go to India or Thailand.

Bingo Card O

1. I fell asleep _____ listening to the radio.
2. We stayed up talking _____ the sun came up.
3. _____ you're willing to wait, you'll have to come back tomorrow.
4. Olivia is so happy _____ it's summer again.
5. _____ we're done, let's get some ice cream.

Bingo Card P

1. We shouted _____ warn everyone of the danger.
2. _____ I've never eaten here before, I don't know what to recommend.
3. Joshua didn't go to work yesterday _____ he was feeling unwell.
4. _____ a bad habit is formed, it's hard to get rid of it.
5. _____ she was tired, she couldn't sleep.

Caller's sheet

after	although	as	as soon as	because
before	even if	even though	if	in order to
once	since	so that	that	until
unless	when	whenever	whether	while

Possible answers

Card A	Card B	Card C	Card D
1. unless 2. after 3. if 4. when 5. as	1. in order to 2. although 3. as soon as 4. even though 5. whether	1. because 2. even if 3. so that 4. while 5. since	1. even though 2. that 3. once 4. before 5. until
Card E	Card F	Card G	Card H
1. since 2. unless 3. once 4. as 5. until	1. even though 2. after 3. even if 4. that 5. whenever	1. while 2. in order to 3. because 4. before 5. even though	1. when 2. whether 3. after 4. if 5. so that
Card I	Card J	Card K	Card L
1. once 2. as soon as 3. because 4. whenever 5. before	1. although 2. as 3. even if 4. so that 5. when	1. if 2. until 3. even though 4. that 5. since	1. while 2. as soon as 3. in order to 4. whether 5. although
Card M	Card N	Card O	Card P
1. once 2. after 3. even if 4. whenever 5. because	1. as 2. even though 3. if 4. so that 5. whether	1. while 2. until 3. unless 4. that 5. when	1. in order to 2. since 3. as 4. once 5. although