

Supplemental Material S2. Complex sentence probe scoring rubric.

This rubric codes the ability of the student to do targeted subordination operations. The student can earn a score of 0 (lowest) to 3 (highest).

Points	Definition
3	<p>Forms a complete (complex) sentence containing the target subordinate clause (the targeted general type: AC, RC, or OC) that is grammatically and semantically correct. Accepted variations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC: If a subordinate conjunction other than those listed on answer sheet is used and makes sense semantically • AC: Reverses main vs. subordinate clause relationship of target but is semantically acceptable • OC and RC: If optional <i>that</i> is omitted • OC: If another subtype besides target is used but is semantically acceptable (e.g., <i>wh</i>-interrogative is targeted, but <i>that</i> is used and makes sense) • RC: If reduced relative is used (optional relative pronoun and auxiliary verb and/or copula BE is missing) • AC, OC, RC: Nonobligatory information in stimulus clauses may be omitted (e.g., nonobligatory adverbs)
2	<p>AC, OC, RC: Forms a complete (complex) sentence containing a non-target subordinate clause that is acceptable grammatically and semantically</p> <p>AC, OC, RC: Forms a complete (complex) sentence (target or non-target) and there is some issue that causes a semantic problem or a grammatical problem that results from the operation of combining the target stimulus sentences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC: Uses a subordinate conjunction other than the targeted one and this results in a semantic problem • The target subordinate clause is turned into the main clause and the target main clause into the subordinate clause and, as a result, there is a semantic problem (if main and subordinate clauses are switched in AC or RC targets and there is no semantic issue resulting, this would get a 3 [see above]) • AC, OC, RC: Verb tense/agreement issue believed to be caused by combining clauses • Uses three clauses to get the information across instead of two or adds in redundant information (note that, in OC items, a third clause may maintain information provided in the stimulus sentences, and this is not penalized and receives a 3) • Redundant noun/relative pronoun (fails to omit the noun that is relativized) • A response that is a complete simple (one-clause) sentence that manages to get across the general meaning of the two stimulus sentences
1	<p>AC, OC, RC: Forms a complete sentence by combining target clauses (verbatim or almost verbatim) with a conjunction (coordinate or subordinate)</p> <p>AC, OC, RC: Uses a subordinate conjunction for numerous probe items (e.g., including OC and RC in addition to AC)</p> <p>AC, OC, RC: There are numerous grammatical or semantic problems</p>
0	<p>Does not form a complete sentence (defined by having a proper subject/verb combination in any clause or clauses)</p> <p>Repeats one or both stimulus sentences verbatim or with minor changes</p>

Note. AC = adverbial clause; RC = relative clause; OC = object complement.