

Text Based Intervention **Syntax – Complex and Compound Sentence Identification (Example)**

Text: Write out target passage

‘When Paul was not playing sport, he passed the day by watching television.’

The goal of this worksheet is for you to tease apart the fragments of what makes up a *complex* or *compound* sentence. Complex sentences are constructed of a **main clause** and at least one **subordinate clause**. Compound sentences have two or more **main clauses**.

Identify Complex Structure: Break sentence apart, into fragments

‘When Paul was not playing sport,
(Subordinate clause – *doesn't* make sense on its own)

he passed the day by watching television.’
(Main clause – *does* make sense on its own.)

‘When’
Link Word

(Introduces subordinate clause)

Rewrite as Simple Sentences

‘Paul doesn’t play sport all day.’
‘He passed the day by watching television.’

(As we can see in this example, by deconstructing the complex sentence we are left with a **main clause** and a **subordinate clause**. The subordinate clause needs words added and grammar changed to make sense as a complete sentence.)