Complex Sentence with an adverbial clause

Writing 1
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A complex sentence:
A sentence that consists of independent clause (main clause) and dependent clause (subordinate clause)

There are three kinds of dependent clauses:
1. Adjective Clause (Relative Clause)
2. Adverbial Clause
3. Noun Clause

This unit focuses on complex sentences with adverbial clauses.
An adverb clause is:

a dependent clause that functions as an adverb.

It can tell *when*, *where*, *why*, *how*, *how long*, *how far*, *how often*, and *for what purpose* something happened.

An adverb clause can also express a contrast.
Kinds of Adverb Clauses

• Time clauses answer the question “When?”
• Place clauses answer the question “Where?”
• Clauses of manner answer the question “How?”
• Distance clauses answer the question “How far?”
• Frequency clauses answer the question “How often?”
• Purpose clauses answer the question “For what intention?”
• Result clauses answer the question “For what effect?”
• Conditional clauses answer the question “Under what circumstance?”
• Contrast clauses show how one thing differs from another
Punctuation of Adverb Clauses

The punctuation of an adverb clause depends on the order of the clauses.

- When an adverb clause comes first in a sentence, put a comma after it.
- When an adverb clause follows an independent clause, do not separate the clauses with a comma.

Because humans are curious animals, they constantly explore the world.

Humans constantly explore the world because they are curious animals.
OTHER EXAMPLES:

A. When he handed in his homework, he forgot to give the teacher the last page.

B. The teacher returned the homework after she noticed the error.

C. The students are studying because they have a test tomorrow.

D. After they finished studying, Jeff and Pam went to the movies.

E. Jeff and Pam went to the movies after they finished studying.

Note: the adverb clauses are underlined.
When a complex sentence begins with a subordinator, such as sentences A and D, *a comma is required* at the end of the dependent clause.

When the independent clause begins the sentence with subordinators in the middle, as in sentences B, C, and E, *no comma is required*.

If a comma is placed before the subordinators in sentences B, C, and E, *it is wrong*. 
Note that sentences D and E are the same, except that sentence D begins with the adverb clause which is followed by a comma, and sentence E begins with the main clause which contains no comma.

The comma after the dependent clause in sentence D is required, and experienced listeners of English will often hear a slight pause there.

In sentence E, however, there will be no pause when the independent clause begins the sentence.
Connectors for Adverb Clauses

For complete explanations of connectors for adverb clauses, please refer to Oshima & Hogue (1997) *Introduction to Academic Writing*
PRACTICE 1 - Complex Sentence Construction

Construct complex sentences containing adverb clause following the appropriate function and using appropriate connectors of the clause.

1. Everyone should know what to do. An earthquake strike.
2. There are a few places of business. A credit card is not accepted there.
3. The artifacts were of historic value. Anthropologists from several universities came to study them.
4. Scientists know why earthquakes happen. They are still not able to predict them.
5. Chemicals are added to many foods. The foods will stay fresh longer.
PRACTICE 2 - SENTENCE COMPLETION

Using the prompt given, complete the sentences using the appropriate adverb clauses.

1. The company president would not have resigned if ________________________________

2. People like to buy organic farm produce so that ________________________________

3. In recent years, Asian medical techniques such as acupuncture have gained acceptance in the West even though ________________________________

4. South Korea is becoming an economic superpower because ________________________________

5. You cannot use your credit card until ___________
WRITING PRACTICE

Write complex sentences containing an adverb clause as a response to the following pictures