

Name: _____

Complex Sentences

Lesson 14

7

Read and Discover

- a. Although octopuses once had a reputation as horrible monsters, most of these shy animals are not dangerous to humans.
- b. Octopuses are the smartest invertebrates; they are as intelligent as house cats.

Cross out the comma in sentence a. and the semicolon in sentence b. Which sentence begins with a clause that would *not* be a sentence if a period were added to it? _____
Which sentence could become two separate sentences? _____

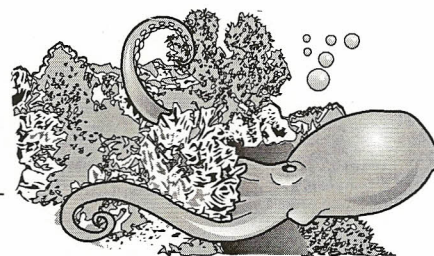
A dependent clause must be joined with an independent clause to make sense. A sentence made up of an independent clause and a dependent clause is a **complex sentence**. A dependent clause often begins with a subordinating conjunction such as *although, because, if, as, or when*.

See Handbook Sections 8, 13, 22

Part 1

Write *CX* next to each complex sentence. Write *CD* next to each compound sentence. Then circle each dependent clause and draw a box around each independent clause.

1. Because octopuses have no backbone, scientists call them invertebrates. _____
2. Octopuses are good hunters; they have a hard, beaklike mouth and eight legs with suckers. _____
3. Although octopuses have eight legs, they do not use them for swimming. _____
4. Octopuses take in water and squirt streams of it from their saclike bodies, and this propels them through the ocean. _____
5. If an octopus loses a leg, it can grow another. _____
6. An octopus might grab its prey with its legs, or it might drop down on top of its prey like a net. _____
7. Though the octopus is a hunter, it is hunted by other creatures as well. _____
8. Seals, dolphins, and humans hunt octopuses; some people eat octopus meat raw in sushi. _____
9. Although octopuses are not related to sea horses, both animals change color for camouflage. _____
10. When an octopus is threatened, it squirts out a spray of black ink. _____
11. Because the cloud of ink is shaped like the octopus itself, it confuses the attacker. _____
12. Female octopuses lay as many as 80,000 eggs, and they tend them in underwater nests for six months or more. _____
13. The female octopus usually starves to death while she watches over her eggs. _____
14. Scientists call octopuses, squid, and nautilus cephalopods; this word means "head-footed." _____
15. Scientists chose this name because the legs of these animals seem to grow from their heads. _____



Because octopuses are flexible, they can squeeze through crevices.