

An 8,000-pound elephant seal sleeps wherever it wants.

Underline the dependent clause that tells where an elephant seal sleeps. Does this part of the sentence make sense by itself? _____

An **adverb clause** is a dependent clause that tells about a verb, an adjective, or an adverb. Adverb clauses tell *where*, *when*, *why*, or *how much*. They often begin with a subordinating conjunction such as *than*, *although*, *because*, *if*, *as*, *as if*, *while*, *when*, or *whenever*.

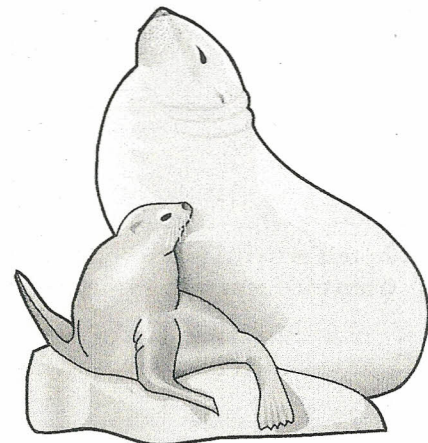
See Handbook Sections 8, 13, 22

HINT: Most adverb clauses begin with AAAWWUBBIS word!

Part 1

Underline the adverb clause in each sentence.

1. Before they adapted to life in the sea, seals were land animals similar to otters and bears.
2. When seals' ancestors moved to the water, changes to their bodies occurred from generation to generation.
3. Now flippers paddle where paws once stepped.
4. Although seals still have all the bones for four legs, only the ankle and foot bones protrude from their barrel-shaped bodies.
5. A seal's shape improves its speed in the water because currents flow smoothly past its streamlined body.
6. As seals developed their swimming ability, they gave up most of their agility on land.
7. However, eared seals, or sea lions, move more quickly on land than true seals do.
8. While eared seals can walk on their flippers, true seals must wriggle on land with a caterpillarlike motion.
9. If they must find food or evade a predator, some seals can dive down to 2,900 feet below the surface.
10. Seals need sharp vision because there is little light in the ocean's depths.
11. Although they spend most of their time in the water, true seals come to beaches for the breeding season.
12. Seals often breed where they were born.
13. Mother seals nurse their pups while males compete for beach territory.
14. Male elephant seals on breeding beaches look as if they are immense slugs.
15. After the new pups have been weaned, the seals return to the sea.



Fur seals were hunted for their coats, but now they are protected.