

WEEK 2

Clause Analysis

- There can be a clause without a sentence, but there can be no sentence without a clause.
- At least one clause must be there in a sentence to be called a sentence.
- Different kinds of clause can do different functions in a sentence. They can work like nouns, adjectives or adverbs.
- As nouns, they can be subject or object to a verb, or they can be a clause in apposition, telling more about the same.
- A clause can also be in adjectival function, or in an adverbial function, qualifying a noun, or another adjective or another clause.

For EXAMPLE: see the following sentence

Six weeks later Rajam came to Swaminathan's house to announce that he forgave him all his sins - starting with his political activities, to his new acquisition, the Board High School air, by which was meant

a certain slowness and stupidity engendered by mental decay.

- The entire thing is one sentence, but it has the following clauses:

(1) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE

'Six weeks later Rajam came to swaminathan's house to announce'

(2) SUBORDINATE NOUN CLAUSE (working here as the object to the verb announce in the independent clause)

'that he forgave him all his sins starting with his political activities to his new acquisition, the Board High School air'

(3) SUBORDINATE CLAUSE (working as an adjectival clause qualifying the noun "air" in (2))

'by which was meant a certain slowness and stupidity engendered by mental decay.'

- For using any language, this knowledge is not essential.

- We have already seen what a clause is. Let us now resolve the following:

What is an INDEPENDENT CLAUSE?

→ An independent clause has both subject and verb in it,

so that structurally it does not depend upon another clause.

- There can be no sentence without atleast one independent clause.
- So all simple sentences, which means sentences with only one clause each, are independent clauses actually.

EXAMPLES :

- (a) Water freezes at zero degree centigrade
- (b) Water boils at 100 degree centigrade
- (c) Sun rises in the east.
- (d) Circling the airport for a long time in the sky, the plane was finally allowed to land.
- (e) All the discoveries and inventions of the 20th century such as from aircrafts to pressure cookers, from landing on the moon to the atom bomb to personal computers etc. have not made human beings happier.

- So, long or short, all the examples cited in the above are simple sentences. They have only one verb and one subject each.

- An independent clause can be long or short, can have many other phrases, etc. But it has only one verb with tense.
- Sometimes, however, two or more independent clauses can be joined together by words like 'and', 'or' or simply by 'commas in a row' such as in the following example,

- (a) I came, I saw, I conquered.
- (b) Sometimes, I have Idlis for breakfast, but some other times I also like bread.
- (c) European workers generally go to church on Sundays or they go to work for charity on these days.
- (d) Mary called the check-in desk before leaving and she reached airport in time.

- The sentences above have independent clauses joined by conjunctions or by commas.
- Sentences of this kind are no longer simple sentences - Grammarians call them compound sentences.
- Compound sentences have, by definition more than one independent clause.

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Clause Analysis - 2

- We have already seen what simple and compound sentence are.
- When a sentence has an independent clause and one or more subordinate clauses then it is called a complex sentence.
- Ordinarily, we often use as many or even more complex sentences than simple or compound ones.

EXAMPLE :

(a) After making his exit from Albert Mission School in that theatrical manner (on the day following the strike), Swaminathan became so consistently stubborn that a few days later his father took him to the Board School and admitted him there.'

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE : Swaminathan became so consistently stubborn

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE : (1) "that a few days later his father took him to the Board school
(2) and (his father) admitted him there

- One subordinate clause can be different from another not only in length, but also in its function.
- The subordinate clauses in (a) are both alike in that they both complement the adjectival phrase 'so consistently stubborn' in the independent clause.
- But in the same sentence, we can have two or three subordinate clauses performing two or three different functions.

(b) 'he excited the curiosity that all new-comers do.'

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE : he excited the curiosity

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE : that all new-comers do

- Here the subordinate clause is working like an adjective and it further qualifies the noun 'curiosity' in the independent clause given above.
- Ordinarily speaking there are three kinds of subordinate clauses :
 - (1) Noun Clause
 - (2) Adjectival Clause
 - (3) Adverbial Clause
- There can be atleast three different kinds of noun clauses depending upon their function. They can be :

(A) ~~is~~ Subordinate Noun Clause working as subject to some verb in the independent clause, for example,

'That the pandemic would disappear was believed last year by everyone'

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE: (it/that) was believed last year by everyone

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE: That the pandemic would disappear (working as a subject to the verb 'was' in the independent clause)

→ In clause analysis of a sentence we do the following

(a) We identify the no. of clauses.

(b) We understand their nature - if they are adjectival, adverbial or noun clauses.

(c) We understand their function - namely, a qualifying as an adjectival clause, or it is a subordinate noun clause subject to or object to something.

(B)

Subordinate Noun Clause working as an object to a verb in the independent clause, such as in the following sentences:

'He still believed that his Albert Mission set was intact.'

(ii) A clause in apposition - It gives additional information about the noun in the independent clause, but it can't stand by itself.

Let us look at some examples:

' Rabindranath Tagore , who is a Nobel Laureate , was not only a great writer , but also a great manager . He ran a school , a university , a printing press , and a journal nearly all his life which is a life worth talking about . '

→ The given paragraph has two sentences . Sentence 1 has three clauses :

- (1) Rabindranath Tagore was not only a great writer
- (2) (Rabindranath Tagore) was also a Nobel Laureate
- (3) (Rabindranath Tagore) but (was) also a great manager .

→ (2) is not adjectival clauses , it is a subordinate noun clause in apposition . It does not qualify the preceding noun , it provides additional information about the main noun .

Clause Analysis - 3

ADJECTIVAL CLAUSE

- We have seen that some subordinate clauses can work like nouns. They can be subject or objects to verbs. Sometimes they can also occur in apposition to other nouns.
- Some subordinate clauses can work like adjectives. Look at the following sentence, for example,

'By eight he was at his desk in his 'room', which was only a corner in his father's dressing-room.'

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE : By eight he was at his desk in his room

SUBORDINATE ADJECTIVAL CLAUSE : which was only a corner in his father's dressing room - subordinate adjectival clause qualifying 'room'.

- This subordinate adjectival clause can be replaced with one adjectival phrase such as 'on the roof', 'behind the wall', 'behind the entrance', 'by the entrance', etc.
- All these phrases work like an adjective qualifying the noun 'room'. So that is why grammarians

call clauses of this kind 'adjectival clause'.

EXAMPLES :

(1) While the teacher was scrutinizing the sums, Swaminathan was gazing on his face, which seemed so tame at close quarters.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE → Swaminathan was gazing on his face

SUBORDINATE ADJ / ADVERBIAL CLAUSE → "While the teacher was scrutinizing the sums,
(i) which seemed so tame at close quarters

(2) It was taken by D. Pillai, who had earned a name in the school for kindness and good humor.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE → It was taken by D. Pillai

SUB. ADJECTIVAL CLAUSE → 'who had earned a name in the school for kindness and good humor' is the subordinate adj. clause qualifying the noun 'D. Pillai'.

(3) There were moments in it that brought stirring pictures before one.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE → There were moments

SUB. ADJECTIVAL CLAUSE → 'that brought stirring pictures before one' qualifying the noun 'moments'.

Required & Optional Elements in English Sentences

(COMPLIMENTS & ADJUNCTS)

SENTENCE

- Sentence = [Subject + Predicate]
- Predicate = (Verb + Object(s) [adverbs / adverbs])
 - Verbs can be transitive & intransitive.
- Complements vs Adjunct
- Objects are complements
- Adverbs are adjuncts

Things to notice...

- All sentences will have subjects and predicates
- Order of words in a sentence
 - [Subject] [verb object adverbs]

- Subjects & Verb in predicate agree with each other in English sentences.

SUBJECTS & PREDICATES IN SENTENCES

- [John] [loves Mary].
- [John] [[likes pizza] [with his friends]].
- [John and Mary] [like₀ pizza] [in the evening].

IMPERATIVE SENTENCES

- (You) Come here.
- (You) sit down.
- (You) drink a glass of water before food.

COMPLEMENTS

- A complement ^{is} an essential (structurally indispensable) part of a sentence , clause , or phrase . If removed it makes the sentence incomplete . It makes a sentence ungrammatical .

- Raju needs for his exam .
- Ramu eats after dinner .
- Seema reads in the morning .

ADJUNCTS

An adjunct is an optional (structurally dispensable) part of a sentence, clause or phrase. If removed it does not structurally affect the formation of a sentence.

- Raju helped Ramu in the morning.
- Raju helped in the morning after breakfast.

COMPLEMENTS & ADJUNCTS IN A PHRASE

- The king of England
- The king of England with his ministers.
- The king with his ministers of England
- a student of Physics
- a student with long hair
- a student of Physics with long hair.

COMPLEMENT VS ADJUNCTS

- One complement in a phrase.

- of maximum of two complements in one sentence
- Many Adjuncts are possible in a phrase or a sentence.

Punctuations - PAUSES

Pauses tell the reader to stop briefly and then continue reading. These pauses are:

- comma (,)
- semi-colon (;)
- colon (:)

1. COMMA (,)

(a) Separate items from a list

RULE: put comma after every list item except last.

Example → 1. I have to buy pens, pencils, and erasers.

2. I have to buy milk and sugar from market.

(b) Separate words that are not part of the sentence.

• sentence Adverbs (fortunately, sadly, frankly, hopefully)

Eg: Unfortunately, I didn't attend the class.

↗
speakers opinion
(sentence adverb)

↗
main sentence

- Forms of Address

Eg: 1. Riya, can you please hold this bucket for a second?
2. Sir, please come inside.

- Formal Letters & Emails

Eg: 1. Salutations / Greetings

→ Dear Sir, → Dear Sir:

→ Dear madam, → Dear Madam:

- 2. Closing

→ Yours faithfully,
→ Yours sincerely,

(c) Separate linking words = however, for example, therefore

Eg. I.
1. She has not got many friends. However, everyone likes her.
2. She has not got many friends. Everyone, however, likes her.
3. She has not got many friends. Everyone likes her, however.

II.
1. My dog knows many tricks. In fact, he can bark on command.
2. My dog knows many tricks. He can, in fact, bark on command.
3. My dog knows many tricks. He can bark on command, in fact.

(d) Clauses

- Independent Clause = complete sentence

Eg. 1. I attended music class last month.

2. When Lena gets home from work.

- Dependent Clause (subordinate clause) + independent clause
= main sentence

Eg.: When Lena gets home from work, she practices violin for an hour.

- Independent Clauses

Eg: Independent clause, + and/or/but/so + Independent clause

i. He kicked the ball, and they won the match.

⇒ Comma splice: He kicked the ball, they won the match.

- Dependent Clause + Independent Clause = main sentence

Eg: If you get good grades, I will take you to London.

- Independent Clause + Dependent clause = main sentence
(No comma)

Eg: He was so happy when he won the match!

- Essential relative / adjective clause = no comma

Eg: That man is the criminal who shot his neighbour last month.

- Non essential relative clause

Eg: 1. People love to celebrate new year's eve, which is the last day of the year.

2. My cousin Neha, whom you met at my home, is heading to US tomorrow.

(e) Use comma before Quotation

Eg: He said, "It's a warm day."

2. SEMI-COLON (;)

- ⇒ The semi colon (;) is used to combine closely related sentences.
- ⇒ I went to see the jumbo circus with my kids.
 - I thought it was terrible. They thought it was great.
 - I thought it was terrible, but they thought it was great.
 - I thought it was terrible; they thought it was great.
- ⇒ Conjunctive Adverbs: however, therefore, of course, in fact, for example etc.

Eg: She has not got many friends. However, everyone likes her.
She has not got many friends; However, everyone likes her.
My dog knows many tricks. In fact, he can bark on command.
My dog knows many tricks; in fact, he can bark on command.

3. COLON (:)

- ⇒ The colon (:) introduces information after an independent clause.
- ⇒ LISTS
 - Here are ^{the} three states that start with the letter A: Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.
 - I have several favorite genres of movies: drama, science fiction, and mystery.

→ CLAUSES

- Never forget this point : think before you speak.
- Never forget this point that you must think before you speak.
- This world is a stage : play your role well.

4. APOSTROPHE (')

(a) Mark Contraction : use apostrophe in place of omitted letters.

- I'm a mathematician. (I am...)
- She's a beautiful girl. (she is...)
- He'd never come late. (He would)
- -and. Jeta doesn't like chocolates. (does not)
- They aren't celebrating Diwali. (are not)
- They're not celebrating Diwali. (They are)

(b) Mark Possession

- Have you seen Liya's new pet? (The pet that Liya owns)
- It is my mother's birthday. (The birthday of my mother)
- Cheetah is world's fastest animal. (the fastest animal in world)

→ NOUN THAT END in 's'

- Shreyas' teacher praised him in front of the class.
- She has two years' experience as a doctoral fellow.

→ POSSESSIVE PRONOUN (yours, their, here, ours, its)

→ This room is ours.

→ Is this pen yours?

→ POSSESSIVE PRONOUN (its) and CONTRACTION (it's)

→ The cat bit its nail. (nail of the cat)

• It's = 'it is' or 'it has'

→ It's time to start the debate. (it is time)

→ It's been a long day. (it has been...)