

# English V

## Clauses and Sentences

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Lesson 6

# What Are Clauses?

- A **clause** is a group of words that includes a subject and a verb.
- A clause can be distinguished from a phrase, which does not contain a subject and a verb (e.g., in the afternoon, drinking from the bowl).

# What Are Clauses?

- An **independent clause** can express a complete thought (and can be a standalone sentence).
- A dependent clause is usually a supporting part of a sentence, and it cannot stand by itself as a meaningful proposition (idea).

# What Are Clauses? (Examples)

Examples of Independent Clauses -

Here are some examples of independent clauses:

- ***Tara ate a cheese roll*** after she watched the news.

(Tara ate a cheese roll is an independent clause. It works as a standalone sentence.)

- Even though his mother was a driving instructor, ***my cousin failed his driving test six times***.
- ***A computer once beat me at chess*** but was no match for me at kick boxing. (*Louis Hector Berlioz*)

# What Are Clauses? (Examples)

Examples of Dependent Clauses -

Here are the dependent clauses in the same examples:

Tara ate a cheese roll *after she watched the news.*

(The clause after she watched the news is a dependent clause. It does not work as a standalone sentence.)

*Even though his mother was a driving instructor,* my cousin failed his driving test six times.

A computer once beat me at chess *but was no match for me at kick boxing.*

# Types of Clauses

## Parts of Speech Quick Review:

- Noun

A person, place, thing, or idea.

- Adjective

A word that modifies a noun. In the phrase "**new small red car**," the words *new*, *small*, and *red* are all adjectives that describe the car we are talking about.

- Adverb

A word that modifies a verb or an adjective. In the phrase "**The very big dog barked loudly**," *very* (which modifies the adjective *big*) and *loudly* (which modifies the verb *barked*) are both adverbs.

# Types of Clauses

- Noun Clause

A noun clause is a group of words which does the work of a noun. As you know, a clause contains a subject and a verb of its own.

## Examples:

1) The fact she won first prize surprised me.

The noun clause '**she won first prize**' acts as the subject of the verb *surprised*.

2) I believe I will pass the test.

Here the noun clause '**I will pass the test**' is the object of the verb *believe*.

# Types of Clauses

- Adjective Clause

An adjective clause is a group of words that acts as an adjective. These are always dependent. They cannot stand on its own as sentences, but are instead attached to independent clauses in order to modify nouns.

Example:

The table that we bought last week is already broken.

The clause “that we bought last week” is an adjective clause that modifies the noun *table*.



# Types of Clauses

- Adverb Clause

An adverb clause serves the same function as an adverb to modify: verbs, adjectives and other adverbs.

Just like an adjective clause, adverb clauses are dependent clauses. A dependent clause cannot stand alone. It needs to be attached to an independent clause.

Adverb clauses usually introduce ideas such as time, place, cause, reason, contrast, condition, etc.

It will tell you one of a few things about the verb of the main sentence, such as: *How? When? Why? Where? To what degree?, etc.*

# Types of Clauses

- Adverb Clause

Examples:

1) I will be working until we finish the project.

The clause “until we finish the project” is an adverb clause that modifies the verb “work” (*will be working*).  
(Tells us *when*)

2) Instead of buying a new scooter, she chose to have her old one fixed.

The clause “Instead of buying a new scooter” is an adverb clause that modifies the verb “choose” (*chose*). (Tells us *why*)

# The Four Types of Sentence Structure

- **A Simple Sentence:** A simple sentence has just one independent clause.

For example:

*I ate a huge lunch today.*

# The Four Types of Sentence Structure

- **A Complex Sentence:** A complex sentence has an **independent clause** and *at least* one **dependent clause**.

For example:

***The museum was very interesting, as I expected.***

# The Four Types of Sentence Structure

- **A Compound Sentence:** A compound sentence has *at least* two **independent clauses**.

For example:

***Should we start class now, or should we wait for everyone to get here?***

# The Four Types of Sentence Structure

- **A Compound-Complex Sentence:** A compound-complex sentence has *at least* **two independent clauses** and *at least* one dependent clause.

Examples:

When I grow up, **I want to be a ballerina**, and **my mom will be very happy**.

**I wanted to watch television** after we finished eating, but **I had to wash the dishes**.