

MEETING 3

MULTIPLE CLAUSES: NOUN CLAUSE

A. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

At the end of the lesson, the students are able to:

1. Understand the concept of multi-clauses sentence;
2. Identify noun clauses; and
3. Write sentence with noun clause.

B. MATERIAL DESCRIPTION

1. Introduction to Multiple Clause

Before proceeding to talk about noun clause, a discussion about the distinction between sentences and clauses must be made. A clause, in English, is grammatical unit that consist of one (1) Subject and one (1) Verb. Meanwhile, a sentence is grammatical unit comprise of one or more clauses.

Understanding the difference between a sentence and a clause is important and will and how clauses combine to form sentence is important in order to develop a more sophisticated writing skill. This is because sentences with multiple clauses allow the integration of several ideas into a single grammatical unit which makes writing more compact and clearer. In Meeting 3, as well as 4 and 5, the discussion will focus on improving the ability to compose appropriate sentences comprising multiple clauses.

2. Types of Multiple Clauses Sentences

In order to make sentences comprises of multiple clauses, clause should be combined through coordination and/or subordination. This will result in three different types of multi-clauses sentences:

1. Complex sentence;
2. Compound sentence; and
3. Compound-complex sentence.

A multi-clause sentences consist of **main clause** and **subordinate clause** or also known as **independent** clause and **dependent** clause. The term “dependent” stems from the character of the clause that is grammatically dependent on some element of the main clause (independent clause). A dependent clause may function as a subject, complement, or modifier of the main clause.

2.1 Compound sentence

In **compound** or **coordinated** sentences, two or more clauses are brought together as grammatical equals, connected by a coordinating conjunction to one another. Table 1 below shows the Coordinating Conjunctions.

Table 1 Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating Conjunctions
And
Or
But
So
Yet

In order to form a multi-clauses sentence, two clauses must correctly joined by placing a conjunction and a comma between the two clauses. Below are the examples of connecting two clauses with coordinating conjunctions to for a compound sentence.

Example

*Andy is singing, **and** Cindy is dancing.*

*Andy is tall, **but** Cindy is short*

*Andy must write the letter, **or** Cindy will write it.*

*Andy told a joke, **so** Cindy laughed.*

In compound sentence, no clause is subordinate to another, hence all the clauses in a compound sentence are main clauses.

2.2 Complex sentence

A complex sentence contains one or more subordinate clauses (bolded).

Example

*Cindy believes **that she is being followed by***

Sentence breakdown

<i>Cindy believes</i>	<i>that</i>	<i>that she is being followed by someone.</i>
Main Clause	Conjunction	Subordinate Clause

Beside compound and complex sentence. There is compound-complex sentence which is a combination of complex and compound sentences. It consist of coordinated clauses (bolded) that are subordinate to another clause.

Example

*Andy believed **that novels should have redeeming social value, and that his writing might help improve conditions of the society.***

Sentence Breakdown

<i>Andy believed</i>	<i>that</i>	<i>novels should have redeeming social value</i>
Main Clause	Conjunction	Subordinate Clause

<i>and</i>	<i>that his writing might help improve conditions of the society.</i>
Coordinate Conj.	Coordinate Clause

In another one or more of the coordinate clauses may include one or more subordinate clauses (bolded).

Example

*Compound-complex sentences consist of at least two coordinate clauses and at least one of those must contain a clause **which is subordinate to it.***

Sentence Breakdown

Compound-complex sentences consist of at least two coordinate clauses,

Coordinate Clause 1

<i>and</i>	<i>compound-complex sentences consist of at least two coordinate clauses</i>
Coordinate Conj.	Coordinate Clause 2

<i>which</i>	<i>is subordinate to it.</i>
Conjunction	Subordinate Clause

3. Noun Clause

After understanding the concept of multi-clause sentences. In this section, the discussion moves to the subordinate clause in a complex sentence that may function as a noun—the noun clause. Since noun clause is a noun, in a sentence, it is used either as an object of a verb, object of preposition, or the subject of the sentence.

3.1 Noun Clause that function as object

The sentence below is an example of a noun clause that function as object of a verb.

Example

<i>I</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>when</i>	<i>he</i>	<i>will arrive.</i>
Subject	Verb	Conjunction	Subject	Verb
		Object		
Main Clause		Noun Clause		

In the example above, there are two clauses: “*I know*” and “*he will arrive*”. These two clauses are joined with the conjunction *when*. “*When*” changes the clause “*he will arrive*” into a noun clause which functions as the object for the verb “*know*”.

We know that the clause is the object of the verb precedes it because if we substitute a pronoun for the clause it must be in its object form. We can

substitute accusative pronouns for them. The example below shows how a clause is replaced by a pronoun in an object form.

Example: Noun Clause as Object

<i>We</i>	<i>believe</i>	<i>when</i>	<i>he</i>	<i>made</i>	<i>a great deal.</i>
Subject	Verb	Conj.	Subject	Verb	Object
		Object			
Main Clause		Noun Clause			

Example: Pronoun as Object

<i>We</i>	<i>believe</i>	<i>it.</i>
Subject	Verb	Object

3.2 Clauses that function as objects of prepositions

In English sentence, there is an object that belongs to a preposition, hence called Object of Prepositions. An object of preposition is a noun, pronoun, or noun clause that comes after a preposition such as *in*, *at*, *of*, *to*, *by*, *behind*, *on*, etc which then result to form a prepositional phrase.

Example

<i>I</i>	<i>am concerned</i>	<i>about</i>	<i>when</i>	<i>he</i>	<i>will arrive.</i>
Subject	Verb	preposition	Conjunction	Subject	Verb
			Object of Preposition		
Main Clause			Noun Clause		

We know that the clause is the object of the preposition that precedes it because if we substitute a pronoun for the clause it must be in its object form. The example below shows how a clause is replaced by a pronoun in an object form.

Example: Noun Clause as Object

<i>We</i>	<i>left</i>	<i>the crumbs</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>whichever birds</i>	<i>came by.</i>
Subject	Verb	Object	Preposition	Subject	Verb
				Object of Preposition	
				Noun Clause	
Main Clause					

Example: Pronoun

<i>We</i>	<i>left</i>	<i>the crumbs</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>them</i>
Subject	Verb	Object	Preposition	Subject (Pronoun)
				Object of Preposition
Main Clause				Noun Clause

3.3 Clauses that function as subjects

Noun clauses can also appear as subjects of the sentence. Below is the example of how a noun clause functions as the subject of a sentence.

Example

<i>When</i>	<i>he</i>	<i>will arrive</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>not certain.</i>
Conj.	Subject	Verb	Verb	Adjective
Subject				
Noun Clause			Main Clause	

The example above is quite complex. There are two clauses in the example, but they are harder to recognize. *He will arrive* is one of the clauses, and the connector “when” changes it into a noun clause. This noun clause functions as the Subject of the sentence. This means that this noun clause functions as the Subject of the main clause. The main clause contains the verb “*is*”.

We know that the clause is the subject of the sentence because if we substitute a pronoun for the clause it must be in its subject form. The example below shows how a clause is replaced by a pronoun in a subject form.

Example: Noun Clause as Subject

<i>That</i>	<i>students</i>	<i>enjoy</i>	<i>Grammar</i>	<i>proves</i>	<i>my point.</i>
Conj.	Subject	Verb	Object	Verb	Object
Subject				Object	
Noun Clause				Main Clause	

Example: Pronoun substitute Noun Clause

<i>It</i>	<i>proves</i>	<i>my point.</i>
Subject	Verb	Object

4. Connectors for Noun Clause

Multi-clauses sentence use connectors to introduce the second clause (applies for both dependent and independent clause). Table 2 below lists the noun clause connectors.

Table 2 Connectors for Noun Clause

Below are the examples of sentence patterns that can be used with the Conjunctions in Table 2.

What			
When			
Where	Whatever	Whether	that
Why	Whenever	If	
How			

Example: Main Clause + Noun Clause Pattern

<i>I</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>what</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>did.</i>
Subject	Verb	Connector	Subject	Verb
		Object		
Main Clause		Noun Clause		

Example 2: Noun Clause + Main Clause Pattern

<i>What</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>did</i>	<i>was</i>	<i>wrong</i>
Conj.	Subject	Verb	Verb	Adjective
Subject				
Noun Clause			Main Clause	

C. EXERCISES

1. Identifying Noun Clause

Exercise a: Identifying Noun clauses

Directions: Add the necessary punctuation and capitalization to the following. Underline the noun clauses.

1. I couldn't hear the teacher what she said
➔ I couldn't hear the teacher. What did she say?
2. I couldn't hear what the teacher said.
3. Where did Tom go no one knows
4. No one knows where Tom went
5. Where Tom went is a secret
6. What does Anna want we need to know
7. We need to know what Anna wants
8. What does Alex need do you know
9. Do you know what Alex needs
10. What Alex needs is a new job
11. We talked about what Alex needs
12. What do you need did you talk to your parents about what you need

2. Sentence Making

Exercise 1: Noun Clause as Object

1. Create five sentences in which a noun clause functions as Object.
2. Apply the pronoun tests described above to demonstrate that the noun clauses really function as subjects.

Exercise 2: Noun Clause as Object of preposition

1. Make up five new sentences with a noun clause as objects of preposition.
2. For each of the sentences you constructed, show that your noun clause is in fact the object of its preposition by replacing it with object pronoun.

Exercise 2: Noun Clause as Subject

1. Create five more sentences in which noun clause functions as subject.
2. Apply the pronoun tests described just above to demonstrate that the Noun Clauses really are subjects.

D. REFERENCES

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