

## EXERCISE 6.1

Capital letters and ending punctuation are missing in the items below, but you should be able to label each group of words as I (independent clause, or sentence) or D (dependent clause). As an extra challenge, underline the subject once and the verb twice. Remember that every clause, whether independent or dependent, contains a subject and verb, but only an independent clause expresses a complete idea.

1. I the car rolled down the hill
2. D when the car rolled down the hill
3. D until the phone rang
4. I it was a long night
5. D although no one arrived on time
6. I D suddenly the glass pitcher shattered
7. D where she found herself trapped
8. I in the corner of the cabinet was a diamond
9. D because no one heard the doorbell this morning
10. D if everyone would speak to the detective

see answer key, p. 442

## SIMPLE SENTENCES

**A simple sentence consists of only one independent clause.**

All of the sentences we diagrammed in Chapters 4 and 5 can be categorized as simple sentences. Occasionally, though, a **simple**

**sentence may contain one or more compound structures**—a compound subject, compound verb, compound direct object, compound prepositional phrase, or some other grammatical structure. Let's take a look at how to build and diagram the most commonly used compound structures. Consider the sentences below:

Mr. Brown owns a bookstore. His son manages it.

Both of these are simple sentences. Although we change the meaning, we can combine them into one sentence by using a compound subject.

Mr. Brown and his son own a bookstore.

Compound = more than one; a simple sentence can contain one or more compound structures: compound subject, compound verb, and so on.



## EXERCISE 7.1X

Label the following as either a prepositional phrase (PP) or an adverb clause (AC):

- PP 1. after the storm
- AC 2. after the storm began
- AC 3. if you know the facts
- PP 4. since the beginning
- AC 5. because the music stopped
- AC 6. when a star appears
- PP 7. out of luck
- PP 8. from the stage
- AC 9. while the lion roared
- AC 10. wherever the path ends

see answer key, p. 447

**Don't confuse the coordinating and subordinating conjunctions.** Remember that a *coordinating* conjunction (one of the FANBOYS) signals a compound sentence, in which each clause is independent and therefore equal; a *subordinating* conjunction signals a complex sentence because the conjunction "subordinates" or reduces an independent clause by transforming it into a dependent one.

As we saw in Chapter 6, two conjunctions in particular, "so" and "so that," may cause confusion. Here is a reminder of the two tests to help you determine the difference:

- When used as a coordinating conjunction, "so" means "therefore." The subordinating conjunction "so that" (even if it appears as "so," with "that" understood) means "in order to" or "for the purpose of."
- Reverse the order of the clauses. If they do not make sense when you do so, you have a compound sentence with "so" as a coordinating conjunction. If you can reverse the order of the clauses without changing the meaning of the sentence, you have a complex sentence with "so that" as a subordinating conjunction.

**Likewise, don't confuse subordinating conjunctions with conjunctive adverbs** that explain the relationship between the two independent clauses in a compound sentence. The most commonly confused subordinating conjunction in this respect is "although."

INCORRECT: Sarah is determined to join the Peace Corps; although, her parents are uneasy about the idea.

CORRECT (with subordinating conjunction): Sarah is determined to join the Peace Corps, although her parents are uneasy about the idea.

CORRECT (with conjunctive adverb): Sarah is determined to join the Peace Corps; however, her parents are uneasy about the idea.

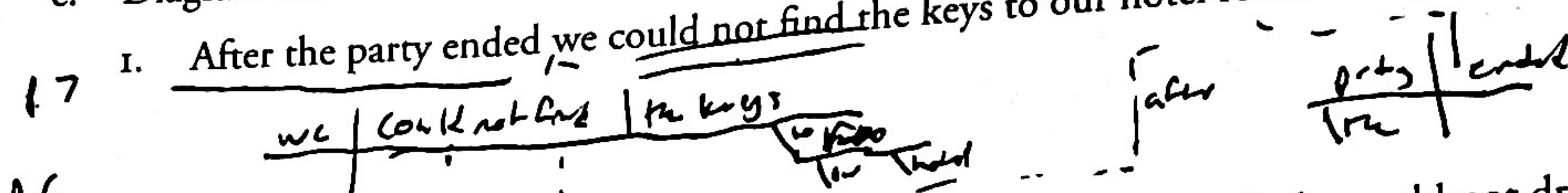


# EXERCISE 7.3

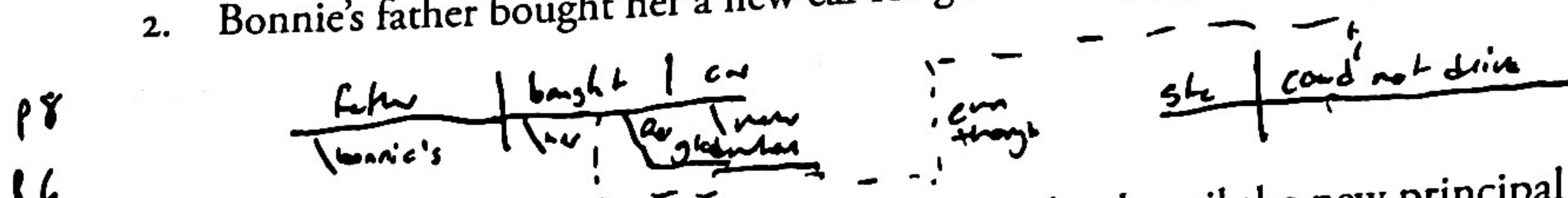
\* All of the following sentences contain adverb clauses.

- Underline the adverb clause and then punctuate the sentence if necessary.
- Determine the sentence pattern of both the independent clause and the adverb clause.
- Diagram each sentence.

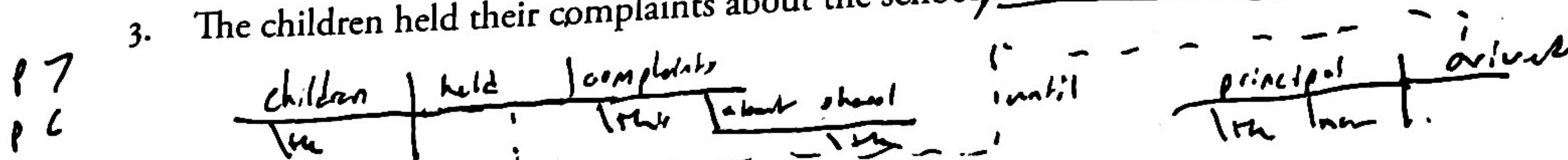
1. After the party ended, we could not find the keys to our hotel room.



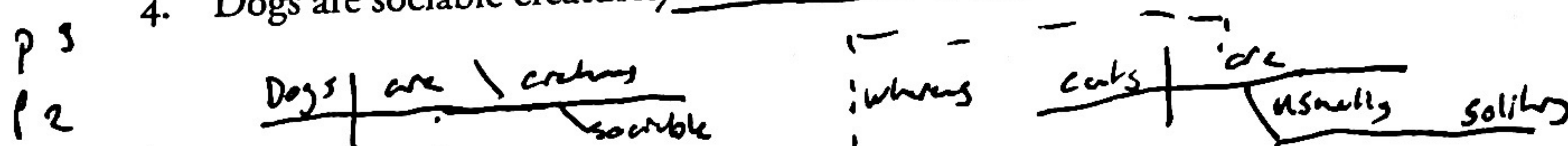
2. Bonnie's father bought her a new car for graduation, even though she could not drive.



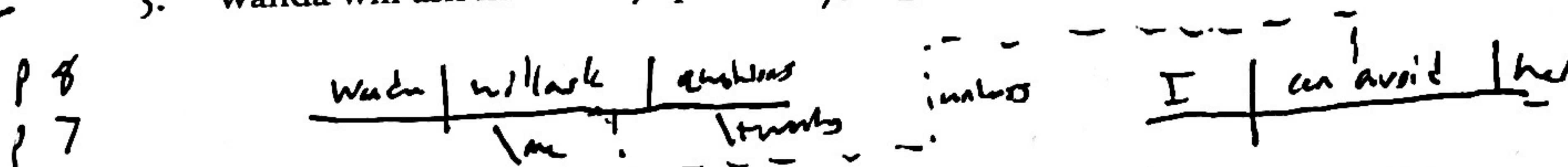
3. The children held their complaints about the school, until the new principal arrived.



4. Dogs are sociable creatures, whereas cats are usually solitary.



5. Wanda will ask me twenty questions, unless I can avoid her.



6. Wherever Lucy goes Charlie Brown follows her.

7. Everyone will suffer if civility vanishes from our social interactions.

8. If civility vanishes from our social interactions everyone will suffer.



Juno described the place *she met Ryan every morning*.

Juno described the place [*where*] *she met Ryan every morning*.

### EXERCISE 7.4 ✕

Underline the relative clauses in the following sentences. Remember that when you remove the relative clause, an independent clause (grammatically complete sentence) will remain.

1. People, who have extensive classroom experience, are valuable resources for beginning teachers.
2. The printer that we hooked up to the computer is not working properly.
3. The year when they eloped was a difficult one for her parents.
4. I do not understand the reason why we must negotiate secretly.
5. A person whose will is strong can live through bad times.
6. The swimmers saw a turtle that was injured.
7. The manager fired the worker whom she did not like.
8. The table we found at the yard sale is actually a valuable antique.
9. We finally located our uncle's will, which was in his sock drawer.
10. The town where I grew up is extremely small.

see answer key, p. 449

### Punctuating Relative Clauses

It is sometimes difficult to determine whether commas are necessary to set off a relative clause. In general, there are two rules for punctuating relative clauses:

#### Punctuating a relative clause:

1. Use commas to set off extra information (nonrestrictive clause).
2. No commas are needed to set off necessary information (restrictive clause).

- I. **Use commas to set off a nonrestrictive relative clause.** A nonrestrictive relative clause is one that does not at all restrict the meaning of the noun it modifies (in other words, the noun it follows). Another way to think of the nonrestrictive relative clause is to consider it a "commenting" clause; that is, it comments upon the noun it follows rather than identifying it or narrowing it in some way. This is always true when the noun being modified by the relative clause is a proper noun and usually true when it is preceded by a possessive form or by a demonstrative adjective ("this," "that," "these," "those"). A simpler way to remember this concept is to memorize the following all-purpose rule, one that applies to many comma situations:

**extra information = extra commas**



## EXERCISE 7.5

Underline the relative clauses in the following sentences and then punctuate the sentences correctly.  
 \* For extra practice, diagram them as well once you have read the section below on diagramming.

1. Simon who had just started his diet woke up at midnight because he was hungry.
2. This old doll which has been in the closet for years, might be extremely valuable.
3. Wanda framed the first check that she received from her publisher.
4. Many elderly people nostalgically recall their youth as a time when life was simpler.
5. The children who were playing at the end of the block could not hear the shouts of their parents.
6. Stamp collecting which can consume much time and money is an educational hobby.
7. The fugitive concealed the reason why he had no identification.