

UNIT 13

COMPLEX SENTENCES

Adjective, Adverb, and Noun Clauses

A complex sentence has **one main clause** and **one or more dependent clauses**. A dependent clause has its own subject and verb, but it cannot stand by itself because the information in the clause is subordinate or additional to that of the main clause. To connect a dependent clause to a main clause, subordinators are used. In relation to the main clause, a dependent clause may function as an **adjective**, **adverb** or **noun**, and so the clause is named after its function.

A. Adjective Clauses

An adjective clause is a dependent clause that **modifies a noun or pronoun**, referred to as the **antecedent**. An adjective clause comes immediately after the antecedent, and it is connected to the main clause using a **relative pronoun** or a **relative adverb**.

Relative pronouns

who, that
whom
which, that
whose

Examples

Anybody who has no ticket may not enter the stadium.
A man that lies to other men may also lie to you.
William, whom we have talked about, will visit me next week.
I like the book which you gave me as a birthday present.
They have found the key that you are looking for.
We pitied the boy whose mother was arrested for theft.

Relative adverbs

where
when
why

The town where I was born is far away.
That will be the time when I will carry out my plans.
We don't know the reason why he left his wife and children.

Strategies

1. Use the relative pronouns *who* or *that* to modify a person as a subject and *whom* to modify a person as an object in the adjective clause.

Check your understanding.

Directions: Circle the relative pronouns and underline the nouns they modify. Decide which ones are wrong. Correct the mistakes.

1. The woman who you just talked to is my aunt.
2. David, who created the most beautiful painting, has won the first prize.
3. The biology teacher failed one of the students whom cheated.
4. Steven, who you have trusted all these years, has not been acting in good faith.
5. In the bank, I met a woman who kept staring at me suspiciously.

Sample item

Leonardo da Vinci, who many consider the father of modern drawing, practiced a
A B C
 method of drawing that recorded ideas about mechanical objects and systems.
D

You should choose option **B** because the antecedent *Leonardo da Vinci* is the object of the verb *consider* of the adjective clause. It should be *whom*.

2. Use the relative pronoun *which* or *that* to modify a thing, either as a subject or an object in the adjective clause.

Check your understanding.

Directions: Circle the relative pronouns and underline the nouns that they modify. Decide which ones are wrong. Correct the mistakes.

1. Mother cleared the books that Thomas was reading from the table.
2. Brian wants to buy the car whom he saw at the exhibition yesterday.
3. The train crash that happened last week took a lot of lives.
4. I borrowed the book who was recommended by Professor Anthony.
5. The football match whom many people expected to watch was delayed due to bad weather.

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Sample item

Table Mountain, one of South Africa's best-known landmarks, can be seen from ships
A B
what are up to 200 kilometers away.
C D

You should choose option **C** because the noun *ships* is a thing. It should be *that* or *which*.

3. Use the relative adverb *where* to relate to a place, *when* to a time expression, and *why* to reason.

Check your understanding.

Directions: Circle the relative pronouns and underline the nouns that they modify. Decide which ones are wrong. Correct the mistakes.

1. The reason why she did not come to your party is she was busy writing her paper.
2. Carol was admitted in a German University which she learned computer hardware.
3. My father took me to a museum when he showed me a very rare species of flower.
4. A market is a place when buyers and sellers meet for business dealings.
5. Why don't you see Carla on Sunday where she's home?

Sample item

In California, the Transverse Ranges increase in elevation toward the east, when
A B
Mount San Gorgonio rises to 3506 meters above sea level.
C D

You should choose option **B** because the noun *east* is a place. It should be *where*.

Exercise 1

Directions: Questions 1-10 are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

1. In table tennis, the players use rackets _____ often called bats or paddles to hit a ball back and forth over a net that stretches across a table.
(A) they are
(B) are
(C) that are
(D) that

2. Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky, _____ many people describe as a composer of music that is basically melancholy, had a remarkable gift for writing melody.
- (A) whom
(B) who
(C) which
(D) whose
3. Taconite is a hard rock _____ about 30 percent iron in the form of fine specks of iron oxide.
- (A) where it contains
(B) it contains
(C) that it contains
(D) that contains
4. A ballad of the 1500's recounts that as Tannhäuser was riding in Thuringia, a beautiful woman _____ he recognized as the goddess Venus appeared before him.
- (A) who
(B) which
(C) what
(D) whom
5. Edward Thomas, _____ a British poet and critic born in London, earned his living mainly by writing reviews.
- (A) who was
(B) was
(C) he was
(D) whom he was
6. One of the most important works of Cornelius Tacitus, one of the world's greatest historians, was the *Annals*, _____ Roman history from Augustus to Nero.
- (A) it describes
(B) which describing
(C) which describes
(D) described
7. Captain Thunderbolt was a bushranger _____ mainly in the New England district of New South Wales, Australia, between 1864 and 1870.
- (A) who operating
(B) whom operated
(C) operated
(D) who operated

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8. The noted artist Thomas Eakins had a student named Henry Ossawa Tanner, _____ encouraged to paint professionally.
 (A) whom he
 (B) whom
 (C) who he
 (D) who
9. Telepathy, _____ part of the subject matter of parapsychology, is the communication of thoughts from one person to another without the use of traditionally accepted senses.
 (A) it is
 (B) which
 (C) which is
 (D) is
10. James Thurber was a celebrated American humorist _____ famous for both his comic writings and his cartoon-like drawings.
 (A) whom became
 (B) became
 (C) who became
 (D) who becoming

Exercise 2

Directions: In questions 1-10 each sentence has four underlined words or phrases marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the underlined word or phrase that is incorrect.

1. Thorium, what is a radioactive chemical element indicated by the symbol Th, is a soft metal with a silvery luster.
 A B C D
2. A tariff is a tax placed on goods whom one nation imports from another country.
 A B C D
3. A thorn is a short, sharp, modified stem what grows out of the woody stems of many species of trees and shrubs.
 A B C D
4. Tapirs live in the depths of the forests and near water, which they love to swim.
 A B C D

5. Napoleon Bonaparte depended very much on a French statesman named Talleyrand,
A B
who he actually distrusted.
C D

6. The roots of tapioca are washed to remove the prussic acid what they contain, and
A B C
then reduced to a pulp.
D

7. The reasons that homelessness has become a problem range from the lack of
A B C
affordable housing, and the adverse impact of economic shifts to inappropriate
D
government policies.

8. A tapeworm's scolex has suckers or hooks, or both, when the worm uses to attach
A B C
itself to the intestine of the host.
D

9. Filippo Taglioni, an Italian dancer and choreographer, was the father of Marie
A
Taglioni, which he trained to be one of the most famous ballerinas of the early
B C D
1800's.

10. In 1898, Valdemar Poulsen, a Danish engineer, invented the first sound recording
A B
machine, an invention what he called the *Telegraphone*.
C D

B. Adverb Clauses

An adverb clause is a dependent clause that **modifies a verb, adjective or adverb** in the main clause. The relationship of the information in an adverb clause to that in the main clause is shown by a **subordinate conjunction** that can indicate *time, location, reason, contrast, comparison, condition, result, purpose, and manner*. An adverb clause may come at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of the sentence. A comma is needed when the clause is placed at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence.

This unit takes up only the first three types of adverb clauses.

Sample item 2

At Plymouth, Plymouth Rock, a large granite stone with the number 1620 carved on its surface, lies when a group of Europeans known as the Pilgrims landed.

A
B

C
D

You should choose option **C** because a subordinate conjunction of an adverb of place is needed here. It should be *where*.

2. Avoid using *because of* or *due to* in introducing an adverb clause of reason.

Check your understanding.

Directions: Circle the adverb connectors of reason. Decide which ones are wrong. Correct the mistakes.

1. The workers had to stop working because there was a bomb threat at their office.
2. The tennis matches were postponed due to the weather was inclement.
3. Hernandez couldn't finish all the problems on the test because of the time was up.
4. One of our plants had to be shut down because we did not have that many orders.
5. The man had to be hospitalized for a long time due to he had a serious car accident.

Sample item

Oil-gas tar and water-gas tar are seldom produced for heating and lighting today because of other sources supply energy for those purposes.

A
B

C
D

You should choose option **C** because the subordinate conjunction *because of* is not correct. It should be *because*.

Exercise 3

Directions: Questions 1-5 are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

1. In *in vitro* fertilization, the eggs removed from a woman are then taken to _____ they will be left for six hours.
 - (A) where
 - (B) which
 - (C) whom
 - (D) when

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2. Lion tamarins are in danger of extinction _____ the growth of urban areas and deforestation have destroyed much of their habitat.
 (A) because of
 (B) because
 (C) due to
 (D) why
3. According to folklore, the people in the city of Taranto danced *tarantella* _____ they were bitten by the tarantula spider.
 (A) because of
 (B) whenever
 (C) whatever
 (D) whoever
4. Industrial technology enables people to transport goods and passengers swiftly and easily to _____ they want to go.
 (A) whenever
 (B) whatever
 (C) whichever
 (D) wherever
5. The Chinese Buddhist pilgrimages to India were possible during the rule of Tang Taizong _____ the emperor opened overland trade routes from China to India.
 (A) because
 (B) due to
 (C) while
 (D) before

Exercise 4

Directions: In questions 1-15 each sentence has four underlined words or phrases marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the underlined word or phrase that is incorrect.

1. Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, lies when road and railway networks meet.
 A B C D
2. The tarsier, a small mammal with round and unusually large owl-like eyes, can grip branches firmly while it has pads on its fingers and toes.
 A B C D
3. Ice forms in lakes and rivers before the surface water supercools to 0° C.
 A B C D

4. The popularity of tapestry declined where wallpaper became widely used in homes in the 1800's.

A
B
C
D

5. Due to the Tasmanian tiger preyed on sheep and poultry, European settlers hunted them and probably killed all of them off.

A
B
C
D

6. Ruling Tarawa until 1979, Britain gave it up while it became part of the independent nation of Kiribati.

A
B
C
D

7. While it migrates, the ibis, a type of bird belonging to the family *threskornithidae*, will try to find warmer areas for its nesting place.

A
B
C
D

8. Because of Art Tatum had a brilliant keyboard technique, he has been praised by many classical pianists.

A
B
C
D

9. Where almost 600 radio stations broadcast to more than 20 million homes in the U.S., the radio had emerged as a familiar household item.

A
B
C
D

10. As long as it was established in 1831, New York University is a private coeducational institution in New York City.

A
B
C
D

11. The bluish tinge in the skin of *blue babies* occurs because of their blood lacks the necessary oxygen.

A
B
C
D

12. Tartar emetic, a medicinal preparation once used to cause vomiting, should be taken only where it is prescribed by a doctor.

A
B
C
D

Strategies

1. Make sure that the word order of the noun clause is correct.

Check your understanding.

Directions: *Underline the noun clauses. Decide which ones are wrong. Correct the mistakes.*

1. I don't think that her own talents she realizes.
2. Do you know that will David call you?
3. It is obvious that he hasn't heard the news.
4. I don't know what are you talking about.
5. The question is how can we get out of this room.

Sample item 1

By noting the time lapse from the setting off of a whistle blast to the reception of the echo from shore, a mariner can determine roughly _____.

- (A) how far off is the coast
- (B) how far off the coast is
- (C) where is the coast
- (D) the coast is

The sentence needs a noun clause as the object of the verb *determine*, and the correct construction is *how far off the coast is*. So, the correct answer is **(B) how far off the coast is**.

2. Use correct introductory words for noun clauses.

Check your understanding.

Directions: *Underline the noun clauses and circle their introductory words. Decide which ones are wrong. Correct the mistakes.*

1. I've just found out that my old pants still fit me fine.
2. The announcement what all students passed made the parents happy.
3. I wonder if Jack will be in charge of the next project.
4. Your idea of what your blind date looks like is too exaggerated.
5. I am still confused about what the fire started.

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Sample item

Scientists estimate how during the last ice age the level of the sea was about 250 feet
A B
lower than it is now.
C D

The correct answer is **A** because it uses the wrong introductory word. It should be *that*.

Exercise 5

Directions: Questions 1-10 are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

- Many gardeners assert _____ grafting, a process used by those who wish to breed ornamental trees or flowering shrubs, may in some instances produce hybrids.
(A) that
(B) what
(C) which
(D) whether
- As we acquire further knowledge of exact molecular patterns, as determined by DNA and RNA, we may find _____ in the long chains of protein polymers.
(A) that are many diseases due to faulty molecules
(B) many diseases are that due to faulty molecules
(C) many diseases are due to faulty molecules that
(D) that many diseases are due to faulty molecules
- In the 1900s Kitazato, Yersin and other scientists demonstrated _____ responsible for the spread of diseases like bubonic plague, Texas fever, malaria and yellow fever.
(A) that were insects
(B) that insects were
(C) were insects
(D) insects were
- After a group of engineers determined the muscle power, size and shape and calculated the theoretical speed of the fast swimming dolphins, it was determined _____ ten times its capacity to produce energy.
(A) that this aquatic animal's speed was
(B) what this aquatic animal's speed was
(C) why was this aquatic animal's speed
(D) when was this aquatic animal's speed

5. According to social sciences, experience teaches every individual _____ than others, so the more pleasant way becomes the habitual way.
 - (A) although some ways of doing things are less painful
 - (B) why is it that some ways of doing things are less painful
 - (C) some ways of doing things are that less painful
 - (D) that some ways of doing things are less painful

6. Knowing _____ would take money, Heinrich Schliemann, an amateur German archaeologist, determined to make himself independently wealthy.
 - (A) that his search for ancient Troy
 - (B) ancient Troy his search for that
 - (C) his search for ancient Troy that
 - (D) his search for that ancient Troy

7. In functional illnesses, doctors cannot see or hear anything wrong in the sick person, but they can tell _____ because of the defective functioning of the body.
 - (A) the patient what ill is
 - (B) what ill is the patient
 - (C) that the patient is ill
 - (D) the patient is ill that

8. The fact about psychology is _____, an exceedingly difficult discipline and an area of human knowledge in which there are perilously few facts to work with.
 - (A) it a science that is very young
 - (B) that very young it is a science
 - (C) that it is a very young science
 - (D) very young that it is a science

9. In 1920 Frederick Banting originated the hypothesis _____ of the pancreas has been due to its destruction by the ferments liberated during the process of extraction.
 - (A) to isolate the insulin when the failure
 - (B) the failure to isolate the insulin
 - (C) when the failure to isolate the insulin
 - (D) that the failure to isolate the insulin

10. It may be fair to say _____ scientific advances such as the calculation of the orbit of earth's satellites would not have been possible without the modern computer.
 - (A) what
 - (B) that
 - (C) which
 - (D) where

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Exercise 6

Directions: In questions 1-10 each sentence has four underlined words or phrases marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the underlined word or phrase that is incorrect.

1. The Austrian professor Sigmund Freud helped men understand where inner conflicts made men sick mentally, emotionally or physically.
A B C D
2. In his *Antiquity of Man*, published in 1863, Sir Charles Lyell maintained why man had existed upon the earth at a period much more remote than was commonly believed.
A B C D
3. In 1900 Karl Landsteiner, a young pathologist, showed what the serum of the blood of one human being is capable of destroying the blood cells of another human being.
A B C D
4. An electronic computer that can be tucked away in a vest pocket and an electronic circuit within a small circuit are examples of that we know as miniaturization.
A B C D
5. Many people in ancient Greece thought which all matter was made of various combinations of four basic "elements": earth, fire, air and water.
A B C D
6. The basic compound microscope, when it is monocular or binocular, has revealed an invisible world of which the simple microscope could give us no inkling.
A B C D
7. Sir William Herschel's 7-foot reflecting telescope, which had an aperture of 6½ inches, was powerful enough to show how Uranus had a disk.
A B C D
8. Primitive peoples generally believed what illness was due to evil spirits that entered the body.
A B C D

- Review

Directions: Questions 1-5 are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

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4. _____ Richard Trevithick contributed to the development of the steam locomotive.
 - (A) He was an English inventor and engineer,
 - (B) An English inventor and engineer,
 - (C) An English inventor and engineer, he was
 - (D) An English inventor and engineer was
5. When the Trans-Siberian Railway was completed, it was _____ railway in the world.
 - (A) the longer
 - (B) the most long
 - (C) the longest
 - (D) longest

Review 2

Directions: In questions 1-15 each sentence has four underlined words or phrases marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the underlined word or phrase that is incorrect.

1. A travel agency helps people arrange journeys and holidays by handling their arrangements travel.
 A B C D
2. Trauma is an unpleasantly emotional experience of such intensity that it leaves a lasting impression on the mind.
 A B C D
3. The ancient Romans used treadmills for grinding grain, lifting water out of mines, and to power cranes that hoisted construction materials.
 A B C D
4. The larger a telescope's light-gathering lens or mirror, the most light the telescope can collect.
 A B C D
5. Today, most countries rely on both the good faith of other countries or international public opinion to enforce treaties.
 A B C D

6. Pulp mills break down logs into pulp, the main material raw of paper making.

A
B
C
D

7. In open country, trees acts as windbreaks and keep the wind from blowing away topsoil.

A
B
C
D

8. Sir Herbert Beerbohm became famous for his magnificent Shakespearean productions at Her Majesty's Theatre, which they founded in 1897.

A
B
C
D

9. Governments are most deeply involved in transportation in countries which all or much of the industry is publicly owned.

A
B
C
D

10. In his theory of personality, Eysenck argues which traits such as sociability are part of a still larger dimension of personality.

A
B
C
D

11. Albert Einstein said what the least amount of energy which an atom at the surface of a material can absorb is 1 quantum.

A
B
C
D

12. Sea cucumbers having soft, wormlike bodies and range from a few centimeters to about 60 centimeters in length.

A
B
C
D

13. Trapping was one of the first methods by whom people obtained animals for food and clothing, and nowadays people also trap to gain profit.

A
B
C
D

14. The trichina enters the bodies of human beings and animals, and infected them with trichinosis.

A
B
C
D

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15. By the fourteenth century, the English language had evolved into that is called Middle English and had become Britain's official language.
- A B
C D

SUPPLEMENTARY EXERCISES

Supplementary Exercise 1

Directions: Questions 1-5 are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

- Bradley Walker Tomlin, _____ made his best-known paintings with strong lines arranged in a rhythmical order that suggest hieroglyphics.
(A) he is an American abstract expressionist painter,
(B) an American abstract expressionist painter,
(C) is an American abstract expressionist painter,
(D) an American abstract expressionist painter, who
- Of all the tombs in the colonies of Asia Minor, the tomb of Mausolus at Halicarnassus in Caria is _____.
(A) the most famous
(B) most famous
(C) the more famous
(D) more famous
- Because fertile soil is required for agriculture, landscaping and gardening, _____ as one of the most important natural resources.
(A) ranking
(B) which ranks
(C) which it ranks
(D) it ranks
- Air is breathed into the larynx and trachea through the pharynx, the space at the back of the throat _____ the passages of the nose and mouth meet.
(A) which
(B) where
(C) in what
(D) in where

5. Most tomahawks, small Indian axes, measure less than 45 cm long and _____ light enough to be used with one hand.
- (A) it is
(B) which are
(C) is
(D) are

Supplementary Exercise 2

Directions: In questions 1-15 each sentence has four underlined words or phrases marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the underlined word or phrase that is incorrect.

1. In areas where have a long growing season, tomato seeds can be planted outdoors.
A
B
C
D
2. The study scientific of certain properties of geometrical figures is known as topology.
A
B
C
D
3. Long and short tons are the units most often used in the United States, but the metric ton is used by near all other countries.
A
B
C
D
4. When Cuvier and other paleontologists were collecting the fossil remains of extinct animals, they noticed where broken pottery was also found with these fragments.
B
C
D
A
5. P.L. Travers, an Australian-born author, became known for their children's stories about Mary Poppins, an English nursemaid who has magical powers.
A
B
C
D
6. The work of the machinist ordinary requires much greater precision than that of the woodworker.
A
B
C
D
7. In his book *Cane*, Jean Toomer he describes people frustrated by their conflicts with social customs.
A
B
C
D

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8. Topography is the natural and created artificially surface features of the land.
A B C D
9. Today many towns use water towers to create the pressure needing to pipe water to homes and businesses.
A B C D
10. Iroquois Indians living in the Toronto area before white people arrived.
A B C D
11. Torpedoes differ in size, weight, and mechanic design, according to the purpose for which they are intended.
A B C D
12. The British explorer Captain James Cook, whom first visited the islands of Tonga in 1773, called them the *Friendly Islands*.
A B C D
13. Tourmaline, a mineral which wears well as a gemstone, is slightly more harder than quartz.
A B C D
14. Medical personnel either apply direct pressure to a wound or use special inflated airbags to slow bleeding in situations emergency.
A B C D
15. Town planners, the people who direct town planning, advise local government on ways to improve communities.
A B C D