

CLAUSES

AND ITS TYPES



CLAUSES

The smallest grammatical unit that can express a complete proposition. It contains a subject and a verb. There are two kinds of clauses: **independent** and **dependent**.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

A group of words that can stand on its own as a sentence: it has a subject, a verb, and is a complete thought.

Examples

They dance under the rain

Where is your sister?

DEPENDENT CLAUSES

A group of words that contains a subject and a verb, but it is not a complete thought. Because it is not a complete thought, a dependent clause cannot stand on its own as a sentence; it is dependent on being attached to an independent clause to form a sentence.

Examples

Because I woke up late this morning... (what happened?)

When we arrived in class... (what occurred?)

If my neighbor does not pay his rent on time... (what will happen?)

DEPENDENT CLAUSES: TYPES

Dependent clauses can be divided in other type of clauses such as:

Adverb clauses

Noun clauses

Relative clauses

Participle clauses

ADVERB CLAUSES

A clause that functions as an adverb. They tell why, where, when or what happens in a sentence.

They are frequently movable within the sentence.

Example:

When the timer rings, we know the cake is done. OR

We know the cake is done when the timer rings.

ADVERB CLAUSES

TYPE	QUESTION ANSWERED	EXAMPLE
Place	Where?	Where there are computers, there is Microsoft software.
Time	When?	<u>After</u> the fruit is harvest, it is sold at the market.
Cause	Why? (what caused this?)	I didn't call her <u>because</u> I am shy.
Purpose	What was the reason for doing this?	She took a computer course <u>so that</u> she could not get a better job.
Concession	Why is this unexpected?	<u>Although</u> Jay has a master degree, he works as a store clerk.
Condition	Under what conditions?	<u>If</u> you save your money, you will be able to go to college.

Adverb clauses are always introduced by a subordinating conjunction

Kind of clause	Common conjunction	Function	Example
<u>TIME</u>	After, before, when, while	are used to say when something happens	Her father died <i>when she was young.</i>
	As, as soon as, <u>since</u> , until	by referring to a period of time or to another event.	
	By the time, once, as/so long as, whenever		
	Every time, the first time, the last time, the next time		
<u>CAUSE & EFFECT</u>	Because › now that ›	indicate the reason. Means 'because now' (present/future).	I couldn't feel anger against him <i>because I liked him too much.</i>
	<u>Since</u> ›	Used to mean 'because'	

Kind of clause	Common conjunction	Function	Example
<u>CONTRAST</u>	Even though › although, though	Unexpected results.	Even though I wasn't tired, I <u>went</u> to bed.
<u>DIRECT CONTRAST</u>	While, whereas (formal written English)	are used to show direct contracts, with no difference of meaning.	Mary is riche, while John is poor
<u>CONDITION</u>	If (prest.tense) unless, only if, Even if	are used to talk about a <u>possible situation</u> and its consequences.	If it rains tomorrow, I will take my umbrella.
	Whether or not›	›express the idea that neither this condition nor that condition matters.	I'm going to swimming tomorrow whether or not it's cold.
	In case, in the event that›	Express the idea that something probably won't happen.	In the even that you (<u>should</u>) need to reach me, I'll be at my house.

NOUN CLAUSE

A noun clause is a dependent clause that works like a noun. You can find it as a subject or object.

As a subject: What she wrote is interesting.

As an object: I read what she wrote.

Noun Clauses Beginning with Question Words

Questions	Noun Clauses
What do you do in class?	What we do in class is easy.
Where does he work?	Where he works is a secret.
What should I do?	I don't know what you should do .
Who are they?	Mary knows who they are .
What happened?	She knows what happened .

Noun Clauses Beginning with...

WHETHER OR IF

- I wonder **if it will rain tomorrow**.
- I wonder **if it will rain tomorrow or not**.
- I wonder **whether or not Mary went to work yesterday**.
- **Whether he invites her or not** is important.

THAT

That pollution affects the quality of our lives is obvious. (Subject)

It is obvious **that pollution affects the quality of our lives**.

(Object)

RELATIVE CLAUSES

A kind of dependent clause with subject and verb, but can't stand alone as a sentence. It is sometimes called an “**adjective clause**” because it functions like an adjective—it gives more information about a noun.

They always start with relative pronouns.

RELATIVE CLAUSES

Relative Pronoun	Use	Example
Who	Subject or object pronoun used for people.	Have you seen the man who is the new marketing director?
Which	Subject and object pronoun used for animals and things.	The horse which Sue was riding is very friendly.
Which	Referring to the whole sentence.	He can't type at all which didn't surprise me.
Whose	Possession for people, animals and things.	Have you see the boy whose mother was on TV?
Whom	Object pronoun for people in non defining relative clauses(in defining relative clauses we prefer to use who)	I was invited by the councillor whom I met at the Christmas party.
That	Subject or object pronoun for people, animals and things in defining relative clauses	I liked the dress that you wore to the function last week.

RELATIVE CLAUSES: TYPES

RESTRICTIVE (DEFINING)

Gives information that defines the noun—information that's necessary for complete identification of the noun.

Ex: The girl whom you saw yesterday is my sister.

A seaman is someone who works on a ship.

NON RESTRICTIVE

Gives additional information on something, but do not define it. They are put in commas.

Ex: Mary, who is my girlfriend, likes eating fast food.

The Ferrari, which is in front of my house, belongs to my dad.

NOTES

RESTRICTIVE RELATIVE CLAUSES

Object pronouns in defining relative clauses can be dropped.

The boy **who** we met yesterday is very nice.

The boy we met yesterday is very nice.

Defining relative clauses are often used in definitions.

A lumberjack is a person who cuts wood.

NON RESTRICTIVE RELATIVE CLAUSES

In non-defining relative clauses, *who/which* may not be replaced with *that*.

SHORTEN RELATIVE CLAUSES

Relative clauses with *who*, *which*, *that* as subject pronoun can be replaced with a participle. This makes the sentence shorter and easier to understand.

I told you about the woman *who* lives next door.

I told you about the woman *living* next door.

Do you see the cat *which* is lying on the roof?

Do you see the cat *lying* on the roof?

EXAMPLES

Spaghetti, which many of us enjoy, can be messy.

This is the book that everyone is talking about.

She wrote to the person whom she had met last month.

We didn't bring the receipt, which was a big mistake.

I have a friend whose cat is annoying.

People who are clever can always find a way.

Grandma remembers a time when radio shows were popular.

Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died. - Erma Bombeck

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The End

