

13. Clause Analysis

According to the three kinds of force of meanings that is noun, adjective and adverb; the subordinating clauses are of three kinds namely:

- Noun Clauses
- Adjective Clauses
- Adverb Clauses

Recap:

- A clause that could make its sense complete without depending on any other clause, is called a principal, main or independent clause.
- The clause, that could make its sense complete by depending on a principal clause through a conjunction, is called subordinating or dependent clause.

Note: In a sentence, when a clause is governed by a conjunction, the conjunction belongs to such clause before as ever it is.

NOUN CLAUSES:

Those clauses which are used like noun are called noun clauses. The chief conjunction is "That".

Example: He told us that rain had fallen ("that rain had fallen" is object – noun clause).

Note: In the meanings of forming into the question, a strong desire and exclamation, the noun clauses form without the conjunction "that" in the functions of -

- Subject to Verb: Why he resigned is a mystery.
- Object to a Verb: He promised that he would soon pay back that debt.
- Object to a Preposition: Pay careful attention to what he says.
- Complement to Verb: This is what no one can understand.
- Apposition to a Noun: The news, that he intended to come, gave us much pleasure.

There are four kinds of noun clauses corresponding to the four kinds of simple sentences in the meaning of statements, questions desires and exclamations:

Example:

- Rama says that Adhi is a good boy. (statement)
- I ask you how many girls there are in your class. (depended question)
- I advise that promises be kept. (depended desire)
- See how they run! (exclamation)

ADJECTIVE CLAUSES:

A clause which does the work of an adjective in relation to some word in other clauses is an adjective clause. The chief conjunctions used for adjective clauses are, "Who, Whom, Whose, Which, That, As, What, And, But" (all relative pronouns).

Example:

- I met Mr. John who told me about your illness.
- He gave me the best picture that is hanging in my study.
- We are such stuff as dreams are made on.
- There was not a man present but ready to hear such a sad news.

ADVERB CLAUSES:

A clause which does the work of an adverb in the relation to some word in some other clause is an adverb clause. (The chief conjunctions related to these clauses are already given in the chapter of conjunctions.)

These Clauses are of eight kinds:

1. Time:

Example: She wept when she heard the news.

2. Place:

Example: He returned whence he came.

3. Purpose:

Example: We eat that we may leave.

4. Cause:

Example: I am glad that you have come.

5. Result:

Example: He spoke in such a way as few understood him.

6. Conditions:

Example: Unless you work hard, you will fail.

7. Comparison:

Example: As the twig is bent, so will the tree grow.

8. Supposition or Concession:

Example: Though he is poor, he is honest.