

Dependent clauses:

Noun clauses

Adjective clauses

Adverb clauses



Definition of a clause:

- **A clause** is a group of words which includes a subject and a verb. The subject of a clause can be mentioned or hidden, but the verb must be apparent.
- **Examples:**
 - I graduated last year. (one clause)
 - when I came here, I saw him. (two clauses)
 - Phill organized the meeting while Jan took care of the catering, which turned out to be the most memorable part of the afternoon. (three clauses)

independent and dependent clauses:

- **Independent clause:**

An independent clause functions on its own to make a meaningful sentence and looks much like a regular sentence.

Eg:

- She is smart.
- Perhaps the decline of this country has already started.

- **Dependent clause: (subordinate clause)**

It cannot function on its own because it leaves the idea unfinished. Dependent help the independent clauses complete the sentence.

Eg:

- Which was too expensive.

There are three types of dependent clauses: noun, adjective and adverb clauses.



Noun clauses:

- *A noun clause is a dependent clause that can be used the same ways as a noun or a pronoun. It functions as a **subject, object, subject complement, the object of a preposition and as the adjective complement.***
- A noun clause usually usually begins with words like **that, who, whom, whose, which, what, whatever, whoever, whomever, whichever, whenever, wherever, when, where, how, why, if, whether.**



Functions of a noun clause:

- **As the subject of a sentence:**

A noun clause can be the subject of the independent clause.

Eg:

- (What she wore to the party) really turned some heads.
- (What Tom did) amazed me.
- (How you managed to make so much money in such a short time) has recently occupied my mind.



- **As the object of a sentence:**

An object answers the question what/ whom about the verb.

Eg:

- I will tell you (why this had to happen) – it's because the people at the top refused to see the troubles coming.
- Please ask mom (what we're having for dinner).



- **As the subject complement**

The subject complement answers the question what/ whom about the subject.

Eg:

- The big problem is (that we have run out of money).
- Paul isn't (what is generally considered handsome).



- **As the object of a preposition:**

We can use a noun clause as an object to a preposition.

Eg:

- He does not understand **about** (whomever I am so worried).
- It's more a question **of** (whom she said it to) **than** (why she said it).



- **As the adjective complement**

Giving more information to an independent sentence.

Eg:

- The committee members were furious (that I was half an hour late for the meeting).
- I am happy (that you have decided to come).

NB

- Sometimes in a sentence, we can have both the subject and the object of the whole independent sentence as noun clauses.
- Eg:
 - (that she might be right) **is** (what frightens me).
 - (how you go about doing your work) **should not affect** (when you get it done).

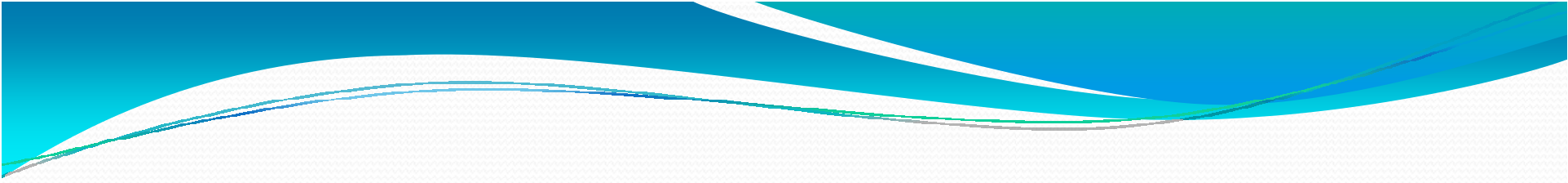


Adjective Clause:(relative clause)

- **Adjective clause** is a dependent clause modifies a noun or a pronoun; the whole clause acts as an adjective and answering the questions: **what kind? How many? Which one?**

adjective clauses begin with relative pronouns : **that, which, who, whom, whose, when, where, and why.**

- « **that, which, and who** » can be both the conjunction and the subject of the clause.

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- - The adjective clause must almost always come after the noun that it is modifying, but there are some exceptions i.e. the adjective clause that modifies the whole situation.
 - There are three types of adjective clauses:
 - 1- Identifying adjective clauses.
 - 2- Non- identifying adjective clauses.
 - 3- Situational adjective clauses.



- **Identifying adjective clauses: (defining)**
(no commas)

It is basically pointing to the noun and gives you something necessary about the noun.

Eg:

- The man (who lives next door) is a doctor.
- The girl (who sold me the car) said it was hers.
- The vegetables (that people leave uneaten) are often *the most nutritious.*



- **Non- identifying: (modifying)**
(commas)

It gives extra information about the noun.

Eg:

- Dr. Smith, (who lives next door), is a retired surgeon.
- Broccoli, (which people often leave uneaten), is very *nutritious*.



- **Situational: (commas)**

Adjective clause that modify the whole situation before it.

Eg:

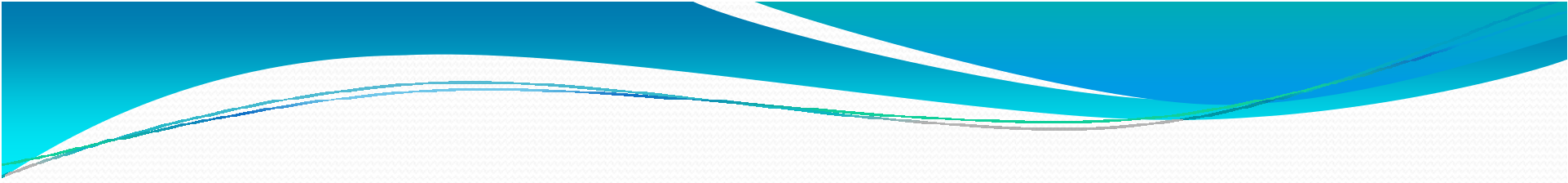
- I bought myself a motorcycle for my birthday, (which made my wife crazy).
- Larry failed his test, (which means he will go to summer school).

NB

- In adjective clauses, sometimes we can use a preposition with a relative pronoun such as: **about whom, to whom, in which ...etc**
- Eg:
 - The eccentric billionaire, (about whom the public knows little), donated millions to charity.
 - The car, (in which the actor arrived) is a lamborghini.

Adverb Clauses:

- **An adverb clause** is a dependent clause that modifies a verb, an adjective or another adverb. It usually modifies the verb.
 - *Adverb clauses answer the following questions: **how? When? Where? Why? To what extent? How much? How long? And under what condition?***
- *Adverb clauses are introduced by subordinate conjunctions including **after, although, as, as if, before, because, if, since, so that, than, though, unless, until, when, where, and while.** These are just some of the more common ones.*

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- The conjunctions we use in adverb clauses are categorized by the function of the clause.
 - The conjunctions we use according to the function of the clause:

Time: after, when, until, before, while, whenever,...etc

Condition: if, whether, unless,...etc

Cause and effect : because, as, since, in order that, so,...

Contrast: though, although, while, whereas,...etc

And here are some examples of various adverb clauses . . .

- **Time clauses:**
- Tell when the action in the independent clause takes place. It Can come before or after the independent clause.
- **Eg:**
 - (After I left work yesterday), we checked out the new art market.
 - - (when the clock strikes midnight), she has to leave.



- **Condition adverb clauses:**

They are also called conditionals or if clauses.

They show that one thing must be true for something else to be true.

Eg:

- (Unless you run fast), you will miss the bus.
- (If you save some money), you can buy a new game.



- **Cause adverb clauses:**

They are also called reason clauses that show the reason for something. The main clause usually gives the result of such clause.

Eg:

- He stayed awake until midnight (because he had to finish his report).
- (Since he has long hair), he wears a ponytail.



- **Contrast adverb clauses:**

It presents an unexpected result between the information in the adverb cl. And the main cl. It shows the difference between two ideas in a sentence.

Eg:

(Although you gave it your best), you didn't win the match.

I'll be in New York in June (althouhg I'm not sure which days).

