University of Batna2

Department of English Language and Culture

BA(License 1) - Groups : 7 and 10

Module: Written Expression

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**EXERCISE**: Identify a noun (written in *italics)* that forms part of the predicate in each of the following sentences. Follow the example sentences.

We find *comfort* in homes today. -----------*Direct object*

Inventors have given *people* this comfort. -----------*Indirect object*

Consider the light in our *homes*. ---------------------*Object of preposition*

We will name Edison a major *contributor. ------------------Object complement*

He was a great *inventor. -------------------------------Subject complement*

1. Tom chose the history of light for his *report*.
2. He traced man’s *sources* of light from early times.
3. Tom surely gave the class many interesting *facts.*
4. His classmates call Tom their *chief* authority on light.
5. Early man invented *a light*; it was *a flaming torch.*
6. Inventive minds developed various kinds of *torches.*
7. A lump of fat fastened to the end of a stick was *a torch.*
8. Birch –bark torches gave certain *Indians light.*
9. Tom named Sam his *helper* for a particular *job*.
10. While Tom talked, Sam showed the class *a picture* of a lamp.
11. They saw *a gourd* with small holes punched in the sides.
12. The gourd was filled with fireflies for *light.*
13. He was *the creator* of modern lamps.

**Clauses and Phrases**

**The Subordinate Clause**

**B**y means of subordination, we join two sentence patterns together in such a way as to change one of them into a subordinate idea and to make it a grammatical part of the other sentence, forming what we call a *complex sentence.* When this happens, the sentence part that has been made subordinate is called a *subordinate clause.* Sentences are reduced to the status of subordinate clauses by placing subordinators before them.

Examples:

-Jordan is very tall. -He is an excellent basketball player.

Jordan, *who is very tall,* is an excellent basketball player.

- International travel is easy and fast today. - Thousands of people travel outside their own countries.

*Because international travel is easy and fast today*, thousands of people travel outside their own countries.

In each of these sentences one sentence pattern has been made into dependent or subordinating clause by the use of a subordinating word. Such clauses function in the sentence as nouns, adjectives, or adverbs, and are accordingly called *noun* *clauses*, *adjective clauses,* and *adverbial clauses.*

**Noun Clauses**

A noun clause is a subordinate clause used as a noun. It functions as a noun in the sentence.

Notice theses sentences:

He noticed her *nervousness. (noun)*

He noticed *that she was nervous. (noun clause)*

The noun clauses may be introduced by subordinate conjunctions or relative pronouns like the following:

**w**ho **w**hat **w**hich **w**hom **w**hose **w**hoever **w**hichever **w**hatever **w**here **w**hy **w**hether **h**ow **t**hat

**Position of the Noun Clause** Since the noun clause may be used in the same way in which a noun is used; it can occur anywhere in the sentence that a noun can occur.

Notice these examples:

1. *Subject of the sentence*

His *destination* is a secret.

*Where he is going* is a secret.

1. *Complement ---direct object*

I know his *name.*

I know *what his name is.*

1. *Complement ---predicate complement*

This is my *opinion*.

This is *what I think.*

1. *Complement---indirect object*

The club will give the *winner* a prize.

The club will give *whoever wins* a prize.

1. *Complement ---objective complement*

She will name him *Richard.*

She will name him *whatever she wants to.*

1. *Object of preposition*

She worried about his *health*.

She worried about *how ill he was.*

1. *Object of participle*

Rememberin*g* her *remark,* I was careful to be on time.

Remembering *what she said,* I was careful to be on time.

1. *Object of infinitive*

John asked her to read the *manuscript.*

John asked her to read *what he had written.*

1. *Object of gerund*

Knowing *English* is very useful to him.

Knowing *that he is here* is a comfort to me.

**Adjective Clauses**

**A**n adjective clause is a dependent clause used as an adjective; it therefore modifies a noun or a pronoun.

Adjective clauses are usually introduced by relative pronouns.

*who, whom, whose, which,* and *that*

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As with the noun clauses we just studied, these pronouns function in noun positions within the adjective clauses they introduce.

Sometimes the subordinating conjunctions *when, where,* and *why* introduce adjective clauses.

The connecting pronouns or conjunctions come immediately after the nouns modified by the adjective clause they introduce.

Examples:

Krakatao, *which is an island in Indonesia,* exploded People *who lived 3000 miles away* heard the noise. The thousands *whom the explosion killed* lived on the island. People still speak of the day *when the explosion occurred.*  The ocean filled the place *where Krakatao had been.*  Give us the reason *why this disaster happened.*

***Adverbial Clauses***

***A***n adverbial clause is a dependent clause used as an adverb; therefore can modify a verb, an adjective, and another adverb.

*Adverb:* He studies *hard. Adverb clause:* He studies *as all his brothers before him have studied. Adverb:* He went home *early. Adverb clause:* He went home *as soon as he could.*

**Subordinating Words in Adverbial Clauses**

A subordinate conjunction, or connective, introduces the adverbial clause and connects it with a word in the main clause. The following are frequently –used subordinate conjunctions:

Although / as soon as/ provided that/ until/ whether/ as/ because/ since/ unless/ while/ as if/before / than/ when/ if/ even if / after/ that/ whenever/ as long as / in order that/ though/ where/

Notice the adverbial clauses in the following examples and the ideas expressed by the connectives.

*Time: when, whenever, while, since, after, before, until*

Abraham Lincoln maintained great interest in legal studies *when he was President.* He read law books *whenever he had the chance.* He even read *while he conducted cabinet meeting.* He had wanted to be a lawyer *since he was a young boy.* He worked as a lawyer *after he finished his education.* He was a member of the legislature of his state *before he became President.* He maintained his interest in law *until he was assassinated.*

Notice that *when* clauses indicate a specific point in time, whereas *while* clauses give the limits of time within which another, simultaneous action takes place. Also note that when a future tense verb is used in the main clause of a sentence containing a clause used as a time adverbial, the verb in the time clause is usually in the simple present form.

*Place: where, wherever*

I have always lived *where I was born.* We will meet *wherever the committee decides.*

*Manner: as, as if*

I do *as I have been instructed.*  He acted *as is he owned the place.*

*Comparison: as, than, the +comparative form*

This course is more difficult *than the last one I had.*  It is really as interesting *as I was told it would be.* The harder I study, *the more confused I become.*

*Reason, Cause, and Purpose: because, as, since, so that, in order that, for fear that*

*As you have already studied that chapter,* it will not be necessary to read it again. It will not be necessary to study that chapter *because you have already read it.* The instructions **are** to read that chapter *so that we* ***will be*** *prepared to take the examination.* I read that chapter *in order that I might be prepared to take the examination.* I **will study** the chapter *so that I* ***can*** *pass the examination.* I **studied** the chapter *so that I* ***could*** *pass the examination.*

*Result: such…that, so…that*

The book was *so* interesting *that I read it in one evening.* It was *such* an interesting book *that I read it in one evening.*

*Condition: if, unless, whether, provided that, on condition that, as (so) long as*

He will sign the contract *if it is satisfactory. (*Perhaps it will be satisfactory.) He would sign the contract *if it were satisfactory. (*It was not satisfactory.) He would have signed the contract *if it had been satisfactory.* (It was not satisfactory.) He will sign the contract *whether it is satisfactory or not.* He will not sign the contract *unless it is satisfactory.* He will consider it *provided that (if) all his conditions are granted.* He will sign the contract *on condition that he be allowed to consult his wife.*

*Contrast, Concession: although (though), even though, even if, no matter if, while, whatever, wherever, whenever*

I was an ambitious student, *although I managed to do my share of playing.*  My grades were always excellent, *even though I was often absent.*  I always corrected the mistakes of others, *even if they objected.* I wanted to excel in everything, *no matter if it cost me friends and health. While I made many enemies in the class,* I nevertheless was always the first to answer the teacher’s questions. *Wherever I sat in the class,* my fellow students always avoided me. *Whenever I spoke,* they always laughed at me. *Whatever you may think,* I was an unhappy student.

**Punctuating Adverbial Clauses**

A comma follows clauses introducing sentences.

*Although you may not agree,* I must make my report today. *If Lincoln had not been interested in legal studies,* he might never have become President.

Clauses interrupting sentences are set off by two commas.

Once, as *I was strolling downtown,* I saw the President go by.Please remember, *if you can,* to meet me tomorrow at nine.

Clauses following main clauses are governed by the following rules:

\*If the clause is *necessary* to the meaning of the sentence, *no comma is used.*

He studied hard *because he wanted to become a doctor.*  He cannot *go unless he finds enough money for the ticket.*

*\**If the clause is necessary, included as additional information, *a comma* is used. These connectives usually are preceded by commas: *although (though), even though, even if, no matter if, whereas, while (contrast) as (causal).*

I was tired, *although I had a good night’s sleep.* I am always tired, *even if I have a good night’s sleep.* I am not tired, *as I had a good night’s sleep.* He is never tired, *while I always am.*

**Exercises: Do them at home and we will correct them in class.**

Complete these sentences using adverbial clauses. Remember that your clause must have a subject and a verb.

1. Clauses of Time

(1) I want to finish this course before------------.

(2) Whenever ------------, I study in the library.

(3) I plan to continue my studies until ---------.

(4) After --------, I will take an examination for a certificate.

2. Clauses of Place

(1) He agreed to meet us wherever --------------.

(2) Let’s go wherever ---------------------.

(3) We saw John where -----------------.

(4) Stay where ------------------------.

3. Clauses of Manner

(1) We come and go as ----------------------------.

(2) I have corrected my composition, as -------------------------------------.

(3) I will treat you as ------------------------------.

(4) My uncle Tahar always spends money as if ------------------------------.

4. Clauses of Comparison

(1) I have written this composition as well as -----------------------------.

(2) When I get paid, I will be as -------------------------.

(3) The older I get the -------------------------------------.

(4) The harder he tries, ----------------------------.

5. Clauses of Reason, Cause, and Purpose

(1) He studied law so that ----------------------------------------.

(2) The festival was cancelled because ---------------------------.

(3) We should take our bags with us, since ------------------------.

(4) You must be there early in order that ---------------------------------------.

(5) There is no need to rush, since ----------------------------------------------.

(6) I worked all the week end, because ----------------------------------------.

6. Clauses of Result

(1) My working hours are such that -------------------------------------.

(2) He walked so far that ------------------------------------------.

(3) I was so hungry when I got home that ----------------------------------------.

(4) The book I was reading yesterday was so interesting that -------------------------------------.

7. Clauses of Condition

(1) I am afraid I will fail this course if -------------------------------------------.

(2) Before you leave, ask whether ----------------------------------------------.

(3) Who knows what will happen if ----------------------------------------.

(4) Provided that ---------------------, we will go to the beach tomorrow.

(5) My employer will give me a week’s vacation unless -----------------------------------.

(6) Supposing -----------------------, what will happen then?

8. Clauses of Concession

(1) Whatever --------------------------, you simply cannot interest me in that subject.

(2) No matter if ---------------------, he calls her every day.

(3) I will invite you to dinner, although ----------------------.

(4) While ----------------------, I still cannot see the comparison between music and poetry.

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