

# **Subordinate Clauses**

# SENTENCES AND CLAUSES

**Coordination** = relating 2 elements of equal status (rank in a hierarchy)

**Subordination** = relating 2 elements where 1 is dependent of the other

## Sentences:

- **Simple sentence:** consists of 1 clause (i.e., 1 Subject-Predicate structure)
- **Composite sentence:** consists of 2 or more clauses
  - **Compound sentence** = a composite s. with at least 2 independent clauses
  - **Complex sentence** = a composite s. with 1 independent clause and at least one subordinate clause
  - **Complex-compound sentence** = at least 2 independent clauses + at least 1 subordinate clause

## Clauses:

- **Finite clause:** contains Subject-Predicate structure
- **Non-Finite clause:** S (or even V) is missing >> to-infinitive c., ing-participle c., ed-participle clause, (verbless clause)
- **Dependent (aka: Subordinate) clause:** cannot exist on its own (related to / depends on another clause), cannot stand in isolation and make sense
- **Independent (aka: Main) clause:** can stand in isolation and make sense

# SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

- **Noun (aka Nominal) clause:** a subordinate clause in the sentence replaces a NP (typically function as S, O)
- **Adjective (aka Relative) clause:** a clause that offers extra information in a sentence (to modify a noun or NP); typically introduced by a relative pronoun (such as *who*, *whom*, *which*, *whose*, or *that*)
- **Adverbial clauses:** in a composite sentence, they provide additional information that is provided by adverbials in simple sentence (i.e. about: place, time, reason, etc.)

# NOMINAL / SENTENTIAL RELATIVE CLAUSES

- *Whoever did that* should admit it frankly.
- I took *what they offered me*.
- *What she wrote* was a mystery.
- He admires Mrs Brown, *which I find strange*.

# ADVERBIAL CLAUSES – TIME AND PLACE

- **TIME:** when, after, as, as soon as, once, since, until, till, while, whilst

- no expression of future for future actions (states):

- Wait *until you are called*.

**Note:** Future WILL does appear in indirect speeches and indirect questions:

- I don't know *when he'll come*.

- **PLACE:** where, wherever, ...

- They went *where they could find work*. They went *wherever they could find work*.
- Take the right fork **when** *the road splits into two*.
- **Once** *the mountains rise above the snow line*, vegetation is sparse.
- The river continues winding **until** *it reaches a large lake*.

archaic: whence = *from where*; whither = *to where*

- He went to the Ural mountains, *whence the ore is procured*.
- He wanted to know *whither you were going*, my lady.

# ADVERBIAL CLAUSES – CAUSE/REASON; PURPOSE; RESULT

- **C/R:** because, since, as, for:
  - Ann looked after the others, *because she was the eldest*.
  - *Since/As Ann was the eldest*, she looked after the others.
  - Much has been written about psychic phenomena, *for they pose fascinating problems that have yet to be resolved*.
- **P:** IDENTICAL SUBJECT (as the superordinate clause)
  - They left the door open *to hear the baby /in order to hear the baby /so as to hear the baby*.
- **P:** DIFFERENT SUBJECT (from the superordinate clause)
  - They left the door open *for him to hear the baby /so that he could hear the baby /in order that he could hear the baby*.
- **R (consequence clauses):** so, so that
  - They left the door open, *so (that) he heard the baby*.

# ADVERBIAL CLAUSES - CONCESSION

- although, though, even if, while, whereas:
  - No goals were scored, **although** it was an exciting game.
  - **Though** well over eighty, she can walk faster than I.
  - **Even if** you dislike ancient monuments, Warwick castle is worth a visit.
  - **Fail though I did**, I would not abandon my goal. **Naked as I was**, I braved the storm.
- **alternative conditional-concessive clauses**
  - (No matter) whether trained or not, Marilyn is doing an excellent job.
- **universal condition-concession clauses**
  - *Whatever I say to them*, I can't keep them quiet.
  - Don't let them in, *whoever they are*.
  - *Whatever your problems may be*, they can't be worse than mine.

# ADVERBIAL CLAUSES - CONDITION

<b>SITUATION</b>	<b>IF-CLAUSE</b>	<b>RESULT CLAUSE</b>	<b>EXAMPLES</b>
True in the present/future	simple present	simple present <i>will + simple form</i>	If I <i>have</i> enough time, I <i>watch</i> TV every evening. If I <i>have</i> enough time, I <i>will watch</i> TV later on tonight.
Untrue in the present/future	simple past	<i>would + simple form</i>	If I <i>had</i> enough time, I <i>would watch</i> TV now or later on.
Untrue in the past	past perfect	<i>would have + past participle</i>	If I <i>had had</i> enough time, I <i>would have watched</i> TV yesterday.



## Find subordinate clauses and identify their type:

1. Whoever you choose to be on your team should be qualified.
2. The friend that you brought to the party was nice.
3. The grocery store where I always shop went out of business.
4. I'll be there at nine if I catch the early train.
5. The video you recommended was terrific.
6. He bought me a lovely gift, although he can't really afford it.
7. When you leave, please close the door.