

• **CLAUSE**

- **A clause is a group of words with a subject and a verb.**

In a sentence, we find two types of clauses:

a. Main/Principal Clause

b. Subordinate Clause

- * **A main (or independent) clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself in a sentence.
- * **A subordinate (or dependent) clause** does not express a complete thought and cannot stand alone.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

- Each independent clause has its own **subject** and **verb** and expresses a complete thought.
 - **The football team traveled to Chittagong, and they won their division.**
- In the example above the two independent clauses are joined by a comma and the coordinating conjunction *and*.

EXAMPLES OF INDEPENDENT CLAUSE

- **I stuffed all the envelopes, and Jessica took them to the post office.**
- **I did all the work, but he took all the credit.**
- **I am new at *Power Point*, but I like it!**

SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

Words such as *whom*, *because*, *what*, *if* and *until* signal that the clauses that follow them are subordinate.

Subordinate clauses do not express complete thoughts and cannot stand alone.

- whom he asked
- because he answered
- what he had heard

EXAMPLES OF SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

- The Officer **whom he asked for directions** was very kind.
- **Because he answered so politely**, the man called to compliment the officer.
- The Chief of Police was pleased by **what he had heard**.

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

- **After, although, as, as if, as long as, as soon as, because, before, even though, if, in order that, once, since, so that, than, though, unless, until, when, whenever, where, wherever, whether, while**
- **These words introduce subordinate clauses.**

USES OF SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

- Subordinate clauses can be used as **adjectives, adverbs, or nouns.**

ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

Adjective clauses function just as adjectives do.

- **Modify nouns**

- **Modify pronouns**

- Adjective clauses are often introduced by *relative pronouns*.

This is the class **that I like the best.**

- My classes, **which meet in Room 209**, are all freshman classes.

- They are the ones **whom I prefer to teach.**

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

–whom who whose which
that

- These words are called **relative pronouns** because they *relate* an adjective clause to the word that the clause modifies. Besides introducing an adjective clause and relating it to another word in the sentence, the relative pronoun has a function in the adjective clause.

NOTE

- In many cases, the relative pronoun in the clause may be omitted. The pronoun is understood and still has a function in the clause.
 - Here is the salad **you ordered**. [The relative pronoun *that* is understood. The pronoun relates the adjective clause to *salad* and is used as the direct object in the adjective clause.]

THE ADVERB'S JOB

- Adverbs tell
 - when
 - where
 - why
 - how
 - to what extent or degree
 - under what conditions

THE ADVERB CLAUSE

- An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.
 - After I proofread my paper, I typed it. [The adverb clause **After I proofread my paper** tells *when* I typed it.]

ADVERB CLAUSE CONTINUED

- Like adverbs, adverb clauses may also modify adjectives or adverbs.
 - His pitching arm is stronger today **than it ever was**. [stronger (adj.) to what extent the arm is stronger]
 - My cousin Adele reads faster than I do. [faster (adv.) how much faster my cousin Adele reads]

NOUN CLAUSES

- A **noun clause** is a **subordinate clause** used as a noun.
- A **noun clause** may be used as a
 - subject
 - complement
 - predicate nominative
 - direct object
 - indirect object
 - object of a preposition

EXAMPLES OF NOUN CLAUSES

- **What Mary Anne did** was brave and earned her praise from everyone. [Subject]
- The winner will be **whoever runs fastest**. [Predicate Nominative]
- She finally discovered **what the answer was**. [Direct Object]
- The clerk should tell **whoever calls** the sale prices. [Indirect Object]
- He checks the ID cards of **whoever visits**. [Object of Preposition]