

Complex sentences

In a complex sentence there is one principal (main) clause and one or more subordinate clauses.

The alarm was raised as soon as the fire was discovered

The alarm was raised – the main clause

The fire was discovered – the subordinate clause

as soon as - the conjunction

Noun clauses

A noun clause does the work of a noun. It answers the questions **Who?** or **What?**

He told me that he had succeeded (He told me ... what?)
that he had succeeded - is a noun clause

I know (that) he is going to be late.
It is a pity (that) he is going to be late

Noun clauses derived from questions

Has he signed the contract?

Tell me if he has signed the contract.

Ask him if (whether) he has signed the contract.

When did you sign the contract?

Tell me when you signed the contract.

Complete these sentences with noun clauses.

- 1 Has he passed his exam? I want to know *if/whether he has passed his exam.*
- 2 Can you type? You didn't say
- 3 Will he arrive tomorrow? I wonder
- 4 Does he like ice-cream? Ask him
- 5 Was he at home yesterday? I'd like to know
- 6 Should I phone her? I wonder
- 7 Is she ready? Ask her
- 8 When did you meet her? I want to know
- 9 How will you manage? Tell me
- 10 Why has he left? I wonder
- 11 Where do you live? Tell me
- 12 Which one ~~does~~ she want? Ask her
- 13 Who's at the door? I wonder
- 14 What does he want? I'd like to know

Relative clauses

*The house **we moved into** was absolutely beautiful.*

*The people **who lived here before us** took very great care of it.*

*I don't think we will ever regret the decision **we made**.*

We use **who** or **that** to refer to people.

*She is the woman **who/that** lives here.*

We use **which** or **that** to refer to animals and things.

*That's the cat **which/that** lives next door.*

*He is the person **to whom** I wrote.*

*He is the person I wrote **to**.*

*This is the pan **in which** I boiled the milk.*

*This is the pan I boiled the milk **in**.*

WHOSE

*She is the woman **whose** car was stolen.*

Adverbial clauses of time

When we visited London we went to the Tower.

We use conjunctions ***when, while, till, until, as soon as, before, after, by the time, as, once, since***

When the time clause refers to the future we use the present tense after the conjunction:

As soon as I give him your message I will phone you.

Past reference

Things happening one after another:

When I came back home my father **went away**.

Things happening at the same time:

When I came back home my father **was leaving**.

When the second action finishes before the first action in the sentence:

When I came back home my father **had already left**.

Adverbial clauses of place

To say where something happens we use conjunctions *where*,
wherever

That dog follows me wherever I go.

Adverbial clauses of manner

*Type this again **as** I showed you a moment ago.*

Use conjunctions:

*(in) the way (that)
as if/as though*

*Type this again **the way** I showed you.
I feel **as though** I am floating in the air.*

Adverbial clauses of reason

Adverbial clauses of reason answer the question **why**?

Use conjunctions ***because, since, as, seeing that***

Since it's a public holiday you won't find many shops open.

Adverbial clauses of contrast

We introduce contrast with conjunctions

Although, considering that, though, even though, even if, much as, while, whereas

Though I have had more than 20 lessons, I am still not ready to take my driving test.

Although I try hard to play the piano I don't seem to improve.

We can also introduce contrast with

however + adjective/adverb

No matter

*I intend to buy a CD player **however much** it costs.*

*I intend to buy a CD player **no matter how much** it costs.*

Adverbial clauses of purpose

We can express purpose with *so that* and *in order that*

I spent a year in Germany so that I could learn German.

For + infinitive construction.

Mr Jones bought a second car for his wife to learn to drive.

Adverbial clauses of result

*We were **so** tired **that** we went to bed.*

*He is **such** a fool **that** he believes anything.*

Adverbial clauses of comparison

*He plays the piano **as** well **as** I do.*

*You didn't finish the crossword puzzle **as** quickly **as** I did*

Put in the conjunctions *as, because, even though, since, though, while.*

A SORT OF HUMANBURGER

1.....*Even though*..... it's difficult to find work these days, Joe Dobson has just given up his job. They were surprised when he announced this at the Job Centre ²....., after a lot of effort, they had found Joe a job at a Hamburger Bar. ³..... Joe wasn't highly-qualified, this hadn't been easy. Yet Joe resigned, ⁴..... the job was easy and quite well-paid. 'What did you have to do for your money?' the young woman at the Job Centre asked. 'Strange ⁵..... it sounds,' Joe said, 'I had to dress up as a hamburger and stand outside the restaurant.' 'A sort of humanburger?' she suggested. 'That's right,' Joe said. 'I had to stand between the two round halves of a bun, ⁶..... I was "disguised" as the hamburger filling, covered in tomato sauce. The uniform was wonderful, ⁷..... I looked good enough to eat. The manager was pleased with me, ⁸..... I attracted a lot of customers.' 'So why did you give up, Joe?' the young woman asked kindly. '⁹.....,' Joe said, his voice breaking slightly, 'students kept turning me on my side and rolling me down hill!'