

Adverb Clauses

A subordinate clause can be used the way a single adverb or an adverb phrase is used. Such a clause is called an *adverb clause*.

An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that is used mainly to modify a verb.

An adverb clause answers the adverb question *How? When? Where? Under what condition? or Why?*

HOW? She walked as though she had hurt her foot.

WHEN? When the bell rings, we will go into the auditorium.

WHERE? We will meet wherever we can find a room.

UNDER WHAT CONDITION? If you have lost your schedule, come to the office immediately.

WHY? We missed the first act because Anthony's watch had stopped.

Subordinating Conjunctions. Adverb clauses begin with a *subordinating conjunction*.

Common Subordinating Conjunctions

after	as soon as	in order that	until
although	as though	since	when
as	because	so that	whenever
as far as	before	than	where
as if	even though	though	whenever
as long as	if	unless	while

EXERCISE 6 Finding Adverb Clauses

Number your paper 1 to 10. Write each adverb clause. Then underline each subordinating conjunction.

1. Fish cannot close their eyes because they have no eyelids.
2. Before he invented the telegraph, Samuel F. B. Morse was a successful painter.
3. The Texas Rangers were organized while Texas was still a part of Mexico.
4. When the Apollo 12 astronauts landed on the moon, the moon's surface vibrated for 55 minutes.
5. The barrel cactus has saved many lives in the desert, since the water in it is drinkable.
6. Although most people think of dinosaurs as huge monsters, some dinosaurs were quite small.
7. Zoos were originally opened so that people could see animals from faraway places.
8. Bees do not sting unless they are provoked.
9. If the earth were the size of a quarter, the sun would be the size of a nine-foot ball.
10. A fox's tail keeps the animal steady as it runs.

Facts and Figures

EXERCISE 7 Finding Adverb Clauses

Number your paper 1 to 10. Write each adverb clause. Then beside each one, write the word or words it modifies.

1. After you went inside, a shooting star appeared.
2. We will go to the station as soon as you call.
3. While he was at work, we decorated the hall.
4. fed Williams began his professional career with the San Diego Padres when he was 16 years old.
5. David is acting as though nothing had happened.
6. We will meet you in the park unless it rains.
7. Whenever you hear the bell, you must leave quickly.
8. If you string a pound of spider's threads end to end, they would circle the earth.
9. Speak loudly so that everyone can hear you.
10. Alan enjoyed the race even though he placed tenth.

Kinds of Sentence Structure

The ability to recognize independent and subordinate clauses will help you understand sentence structure. There are three kinds of sentences: *simple, compound, and complex.*

9f A **simple sentence** consists of one independent clause.

Terry caught several fish in the mountain stream.
The cat pounced on the ball of yarn.

A **compound sentence** is two or more sentences that are usually joined by the conjunction *and, but, or, or yet.*

9g A **compound sentence** consists of two or more independent clauses.

Each independent clause in a compound sentence can stand alone as a separate sentence.

Lori pitched the ball, and Albert hit a home run.

The actors are ready, but the director is not here.

EXERCISE 9 Recognizing Simple and Compound Sentences

Number your paper 1 to 10. Copy each sentence. Draw one line under each subject and two lines under each verb. Then label each sentence *simple or compound*.

1. Color-blind people cannot distinguish between the colors red and green.
2. Moths usually fly at night, and butterflies fly during the day.
3. A lobster may easily replace a lost claw.
4. The brown pelican dives for fish, but the white pelican scoops the fish from the water's surface.

People and Animal Facts

Punctuation with Adverb Clauses

Always place a comma after an adverb clause that comes at the beginning of a sentence.

Since several members are absent, we cannot vote.

EXERCISE 8 Writing Sentences

Write a sentence for each adverb clause. Begin three sentences with an adverb clause. Use commas where needed.

1. as it rose in the air
2. if you phone before noon
3. although I will miss you
4. until I hear from you
5. when the game starts

TIME-OUT FOR REVIEW

Number your paper 1 to 10. Write each subordinate clause. Then label each clause *adjective or adverb*.

1. Many swimmers have crossed the English Channel, which is 22 miles wide. *Adj.*
2. In 1961, Antonio Abertondo attempted something that no one else had ever done before. *Adv.*
3. Abertondo, who was 42 years old, swam across the English Channel and back again without a stop! *Adv.*
4. When he arrived at Dover Beach, he was covered with grease for protection against the cold water. *Adverb*
5. He swam steadily for the next 18 hours and 50 minutes until he reached the French coast. *Adverb*
6. After he sipped a hot drink, he headed back to England. *Adverb*
7. Because Abertondo eventually became extremely tired, he had hallucinations. *Adverb*
8. During the hallucinations, he saw huge sharks, which were swimming all around him. *Adjective*
9. When he finally reached the English coast, he had been swimming for 43 hours and 15 minutes. *Adverb*
10. The last mile, which had taken him two hours, had been the hardest. *Adjective*