

Unit 7: Clauses and Complex Sentences

Lesson 42

Simple and Compound Sentences and Main Clauses

A **simple sentence** has one complete subject and one complete predicate.

COMPLETE SUBJECT

A pretty flower
Roses and tulips

COMPLETE PREDICATE

grows in the garden.
grow and bloom in the garden.

A **compound sentence** contains two or more simple sentences. Each simple sentence within a compound sentence is called a **main clause**. Main clauses are joined either by a comma followed by a conjunction or by a semicolon. The comma may be omitted if the main clauses are very short.

I watch **and** I learn.

Flowers are delicate, **and** they need tender care.

Flowers are delicate; they need tender care.

► **Exercise 1** Write in the blank *simple* or *compound* to identify the type of sentence.

compound

Mexican food is very unique, and it has a spicy flavor.

- _____ 1. People across America have developed an appreciation for Mexican food.
- _____ 2. We enjoy going to a Mexican restaurant, but sometimes we must wait in line for over an hour.
- _____ 3. The taco is a popular item, and it is easy to prepare.
- _____ 4. A taco usually consists of a folded corn tortilla, ground beef, cheese, lettuce, and tomato.
- _____ 5. Tacos come in two varieties; their shells can be either hard or soft.
- _____ 6. Some cooks buy taco shells already made; others fry and form the shells themselves.
- _____ 7. Browning ground beef in a shallow skillet is the first step.
- _____ 8. Drain the grease frequently; too much grease makes tacos unhealthful.
- _____ 9. Spices and chopped onions can be added to the cooked ground beef.
- _____ 10. A layer of ground beef is then spooned into the taco shell.

- _____ 11. I like cheese on top of the beef; some add lettuce.
- _____ 12. Chunks of red tomatoes give the taco a colorful appearance.
- _____ 13. Toppings such as black olives and sour cream can also be added.
- _____ 14. Some people add hot sauce or salsa.
- _____ 15. Tacos are nutritious, and they are also delicious.

► **Exercise 2 Underline each main clause. Add a comma or a semicolon as needed.**

Food from specific countries is known as ethnic food; a large variety exists.

1. Ethnic foods come from around the world and they can be found all over the United States.
2. World foods add diversity to American cuisine they provide a flavorful change of pace.
3. Many ethnic foods use common ingredients but they taste different because of the spices.
4. Chinese soft noodles are long, thin strips of pasta and some pasta dumplings contain cheese or meat.
5. Regional foods normally use local ingredients these are fresh and economical.
6. The different flavors come from special ingredients some may not be available in your area.
7. Different styles of Chinese cooking include Szechwan, Mandarin, and Cantonese
Szechwan is spicier than the others.
8. Chinese food is popular and fortune cookies are always fun!
9. Thai dishes often include rice but sometimes rice noodles are used instead.
10. The names of some Thai dishes begin with the words *kin khao* this expression means "come eat."

Lesson 43**Complex Sentences and Subordinate Clauses**

A **complex sentence** has a main clause and one or more subordinate clauses. A **main clause** has a subject and a predicate, and it can stand alone as a sentence. A **subordinate clause** also has a subject and a predicate, but it cannot stand alone as a sentence. It depends on the main clause to complete its meaning. It can act as an adjective, an adverb, or a noun.

MAIN CLAUSE

They are playing music
We must stop skating
I will tell you

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE

that I like to hear. (adjective)
when the music stops. (adverb)
what happened at the rink. (noun)

► **Exercise 1** Write in the blank *simple* or *complex* to identify the type of sentence.

- _____ **complex** February 2, which is the midpoint of winter, is an unusual holiday.
- _____ 1. It is Groundhog Day and is celebrated all over the country.
- _____ 2. The groundhog, which is actually a woodchuck, emerges from hibernation on that day.
- _____ 3. If the groundhog sees its shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter weather.
- _____ 4. After the groundhog sees its shadow, it returns to its burrow until spring.
- _____ 5. If the day is cloudy and the groundhog does not see its shadow, spring will come early.
- _____ 6. The groundhog stays outside because it expects spring.
- _____ 7. People enjoy this custom although most do not believe in it.
- _____ 8. Statistical evidence does not support this popular superstition.
- _____ 9. The groundhog that most people watch for is in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.
- _____ 10. Its name is Phil, probably from the word *fillip*, which means "anything that stirs or livens up."
- _____ 11. About seven thousand townspeople gather on February 2 and watch for the famous groundhog.

- _____ 12. Since the tradition began in 1887, the furry forecaster has seen its shadow all but eleven times.
- _____ 13. Our Groundhog Day tradition is based on an old German fable.
- _____ 14. This fable says that if an animal casts a shadow on February 2, there will be bad weather.
- _____ 15. This fun tradition inspired the 1993 movie *Groundhog Day*, which takes place in Punxsutawney.

► **Exercise 2** Underline each main clause. Write in the blank *simple* or *complex* to identify the type of sentence.

_____ **complex**

The groundhog, which is also called a woodchuck, is a kind of marmot.

- _____ 1. This makes it a member of the squirrel family.
- _____ 2. Adult groundhogs are usually two feet long, including their bushy tails, which are about five inches long.
- _____ 3. They have coarse brownish-gray fur with hints of red.
- _____ 4. Groundhogs live in the eastern and central United States where there are open fields.
- _____ 5. They feed on grasses and whatever vegetation they can find.
- _____ 6. They particularly like plants such as clover and alfalfa.
- _____ 7. When groundhogs come out of their holes to look for food, they stop to listen for signs of danger.
- _____ 8. Because groundhogs often sit still on their haunches, they can be easy targets for hunters.
- _____ 9. Groundhogs hibernate in burrows during the winter months.
- _____ 10. Before they hibernate, they eat large amounts of food.
- _____ 11. Groundhogs are able to sleep for most of the winter because the food they ate turns to fat.
- _____ 12. Groundhogs are fun and fascinating animals to observe, especially since there is an annual holiday named after them!

Lesson 44

Adjective Clauses

An **adjective clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a noun or pronoun in the main clause. An adjective clause follows the word it modifies. As with any subordinate clause, an adjective clause has a subject and a verb, but is not a complete sentence and cannot stand by itself. Generally, an adjective clause begins with a **relative pronoun** such as *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *whoever*, or *whomever*. It can also begin with *where* or *when*. A relative pronoun that begins an adjective clause can be the subject of the clause.

This book, **which was written in 1915**, is very interesting.
A railroad flare produces a bright flame **that can be seen hundreds of yards away**.

► **Exercise 1** Draw one line under each adjective clause. Draw a second line under each word that introduces an adjective clause.

Cartoon characters that were introduced in the 1930s are still popular today.

1. A university is a college where many subjects are studied.
2. Cable television, which was originally used to bring in distant stations, provides many types of specialized programming.
3. Juke boxes that used to play a song for a dime now cost much more.
4. Help came at a time when Stan needed it most.
5. John Chapman, who was nicknamed Johnny Appleseed, planted apple seeds in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.
6. Hummingbirds are tiny birds that are less than three inches long.
7. The Irish wolfhound, which is a hunting dog, is the tallest breed of the species.
8. The diver whose turn it was waved to the crowd.
9. Hurricanes are tropical cyclones that have wind speeds of up to 150 miles per hour.
10. Abraham Lincoln, who moved from Illinois to Washington, grew up in Kentucky.
11. The *Arabian Nights* is a collection of stories that have been passed down from one generation to the next.

12. Is Natalie the keyboard player whom you asked to join the band?
13. I need to edit this report that I am writing.
14. Many students who bring their lunches to school buy milk in the cafeteria.
15. Athens, which is the capital of Greece, is believed to have been named after Athena.
16. Moshe, who has written music for other schools, wrote the music for our class play.
17. The cook on duty this evening, whoever that may be, will prepare an excellent meal.
18. He who laughs last laughs best.
19. The giant armadillo, which can grow to more than three feet long, lives in South America.
20. Susan B. Anthony, who was a schoolteacher, was active in the antislavery movement.

► **Exercise 2** Draw one line under each adjective clause. Draw an arrow to the noun that it modifies.

The woman who received the award gave a fine speech.

1. Jacques, whom we haven't met until now, just enrolled at our school.
2. The clock that I just bought has a digital readout.
3. Acrobats perform complicated feats that seem to defy gravity.
4. Maria is the student whose poetry won a prize.
5. Many people in Belgium speak Flemish, which is similar to Dutch.
6. The *Katzenjammer Kids*, which was one of the first comic strips to appear in a periodical, appeared in *American Humorist* in 1897.
7. Mr. Griffin is a teacher whom you will like.
8. Can you see the mountain that lies just beyond the tree line?
9. Thuong likes to walk on trails where he can see wildlife.
10. Most people have days when they cannot get organized.

Lesson 45

Adverb Clauses

An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that often modifies a verb in the main clause of a complex sentence. It can also modify an adjective or an adverb. An adverb clause tells *how, when, where, why, or under what conditions* the action occurs. When an adverb clause introduces a sentence, it is usually separated from the main clause by a comma. When an adverb clause comes at the end of a sentence, it usually does not take a comma.

Before she signs up for next year's classes, Deena will talk with her counselor. Calvin passed the ball **because his teammate had an open shot**.

The first word of an adverb clause is a **subordinating conjunction**.

COMMON SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

after	before	than	when	whereas
although	if	though	whenever	wherever
as	since	unless	where	while
because	so that	until		

► Exercise 1 Underline each adverb clause. Circle the subordinating conjunction.

You should count your pages before you begin.

- Builders use plywood in the construction of small boats because it is easy to shape.
- I haven't spoken with Jane since she moved.
- Airplanes sometimes fly to unscheduled cities when the weather is bad.
- I'll wear my sandals if the weather is warm.
- Whenever I walk to school, my cat follows me down the street.
- Please read the book while it's still available from the library.
- Since it was just painted, don't lean against the wall.
- Tomatoes taste best when they're fully ripened.
- Everybody ate dessert after they finished eating the main course.

10. Although it was written in 1814, "The Star-Spangled Banner" did not become the official national anthem until 1931.
11. Soldiers must stand at attention when they speak to an officer.
12. I'll cut the grass today if it doesn't rain.
13. When they feel threatened, dogs sometimes display aggressive behavior.
14. Incandescent and fluorescent bulbs produce light differently although they both serve the same purpose.
15. The concert will end at 10:30 P.M. unless the audience insists on several encores.
16. You will receive extra credit if you turn in your project early.
17. Grace swims better than she dives.
18. The pep rally won't begin until the last class of the day has ended.
19. Keiko wrote her name on the chalkboard after she finished the problem.
20. Elena will groom the horse in the morning so that she can ride it in the afternoon.

▷ **Exercise 2 Underline each adverb clause. Draw an arrow to the verb that it modifies.**

Dad painted the fence because he didn't want it to rust.

1. When the principal called her name, Rosa stepped up to the podium.
2. Binoculars and telescopes magnify images because they have special lenses.
3. Whenever I hear the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I feel inspired.
4. Always check the expiration date before you buy perishable food.
5. Sprinters run at their limit during their races whereas distance runners pace themselves.
6. After the winter sports season ends, the athletes attend a banquet.

Lesson 46

Noun Clauses

A **noun clause** is a subordinate clause used as a noun. It may serve as a subject, direct object, predicate noun, or object of a preposition.

Whoever rides in a car should wear seat belts. (subject)

Claude said **that he is watching television**. (direct object)

Listening to tapes is **how I learned Spanish**. (predicate noun)

Please listen to **what the director says**. (object of a preposition)

WORDS THAT INTRODUCE NOUN CLAUSES

how	what	where	who	whomever
however	whatever	which	whom	whose
that	when	whichever	whoever	why

► **Exercise 1** Draw one line under each noun clause. Draw a second line under each word that introduces a noun clause.

You can read whichever book you like.

1. City Hall is where the parade begins.
2. I don't know which one I should choose.
3. Jamaal's little sister likes to do whatever he does.
4. When you reach the next grade level depends on how well you study.
5. Whoever needs a new locker should sign the sheet outside the office.
6. Our science teacher explained why the sun turns shades of pink and red at sunset.
7. The clerk said that this was the last sweatshirt in stock.
8. Can you please demonstrate how this computer works?
9. New York is where people of many nationalities live.
10. José couldn't add any facts to what had already been said.
11. However you want to arrange the living room furniture is okay with me.
12. He told me what he wanted for his birthday.
13. Whatever you want to eat is fine with me.
14. Do you remember when you tried to throw the ball all the way to home plate?

15. The test question asked whose ancestors lived in Egypt and Syria.
16. The field trip was different from what they had expected.
17. Joel said that he will visit his cousin this summer.
18. Friday evening is when I watch comedies.
19. For your party, you can invite whomever you want.
20. Why he dropped that pass is a mystery.

► **Exercise 2** Underline each noun clause. In the blank, identify the clause as *subj.* (subject), *DO* (direct object), *OP* (object of a preposition), or *PN* (predicate noun).

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| <p><u>PN</u></p> | <p>A steep hill and plenty of snow are <u>what we need for sledding</u>.</p> |
|------------------|--|
- _____ 1. Your athletic skills will be valuable in whichever sport you choose.
 - _____ 2. Whoever is waiting for the governor should stand in line.
 - _____ 3. When Canadian geese head south is the time of winter's approach.
 - _____ 4. The coach said that this is going to be the best team in several years.
 - _____ 5. Choir directors seek whoever has a good voice.
 - _____ 6. His problem is that he doesn't write down his assignments.
 - _____ 7. This is how students select their major.
 - _____ 8. Pay close attention to what I do.
 - _____ 9. Is Lieutenant Blaine the person with whom I'll be speaking?
 - _____ 10. How wars are lost is the subject of the book.
 - _____ 11. Doctors can explain why proper nutrition is so important.
 - _____ 12. That the politicians differ in opinion is obvious.
 - _____ 13. Isaac Newton proved that comets and planets are subject to the laws of gravity.
 - _____ 14. A computer will process whatever is entered into it.
 - _____ 15. Who sent the yellow roses is a mystery to me.
 - _____ 16. The city council will be presenting awards to whoever has made important contributions to the community.



Unit 7 Review

► **Exercise 1** Underline each subordinate clause. Write in the blank, *adj.* for adjective clause, *adv.* for adverb clause, or *N* for noun clause.

- adj. This magazine has pictures of hair styles that you can do yourself.
- _____ 1. Before you leave, fill in all the answers.
- _____ 2. Dogs that undergo extensive training assist people with special needs.
- _____ 3. Airplanes fly above storm clouds whenever they can.
- _____ 4. Whoever arrives first will win the door prize.
- _____ 5. If it rains, the game will be canceled.
- _____ 6. Ricky knew that the library book was due.
- _____ 7. The tickets that have come back from the printer are now on sale.
- _____ 8. Alligators and crocodiles live in tropical regions because they are cold-blooded.
- _____ 9. England is where the Wimbledon tennis tournament takes place.
- _____ 10. Police officers who visit the schools teach classes on safety and crime prevention.
- _____ 11. Pineapples, which grow on bushes, weigh several ounces and have a spiny covering.
- _____ 12. Whenever the referee calls a foul, the clock stops.
- _____ 13. Whoever owns a vintage 78 r.p.m. recording must handle it very carefully.
- _____ 14. The sound that you heard was made by a stringed instrument.
- _____ 15. Farmers whose land is not eroded can grow many crops.
- _____ 16. Movies portray dinosaurs as vicious creatures although many were really gentle plant-eaters.
- _____ 17. Cactus plants survive in very dry regions because they retain moisture.
- _____ 18. Architects must know what the purpose of a building is.
- _____ 19. The library subscribes to magazines that are published all over the world.
- _____ 20. Derek breathed a sigh of relief after he won the election.

Cumulative Review: Units 1–7

► **Exercise 1** Write *adj.* or *adv.* in the blank to indicate whether the italicized word is an adjective or adverb.

adv.

Be sure to cook the meat *slowly*.

- _____ 1. The weather service is predicting a *harsh* winter.
- _____ 2. Our math test was *extremely* difficult.
- _____ 3. Musicians must practice *diligently* before concerts.
- _____ 4. Many operas are sung in *foreign* languages.
- _____ 5. This music is *too* loud!
- _____ 6. Have you read *this* book?
- _____ 7. Johann Sebastian Bach wrote music in the *Baroque* style.
- _____ 8. I worked *hard* to finish my English paper on time.
- _____ 9. The puzzle was *hard* so I asked for help.
- _____ 10. Be sure to lock the *inner* gate before you leave.
- _____ 11. This building is *taller* than the one we visited yesterday.
- _____ 12. Because Houston is a large city, I have always wanted to travel *there*.
- _____ 13. Luis searched *everywhere* for the book.
- _____ 14. The museum is having an exhibit of *Chinese* art.
- _____ 15. Please call him back *immediately*.
- _____ 16. Antonio *almost* scored a goal in Saturday's game.
- _____ 17. Joshua plays the piano *very well*.
- _____ 18. The mechanics worked *quickly* to fix the race car.
- _____ 19. Janna waited *patiently* while her teacher graded her paper.
- _____ 20. Only the *fastest* horses run in the Kentucky Derby.

► **Exercise 2** Underline each preposition and circle each conjunction. Identify the kind of conjunction by writing *coord.* (coordinating) or *subord.* (subordinating).

- coord. This game of mine has new batteries, but it still doesn't work.
- _____ 1. Movie cameras use film, but video cameras record their images on magnetic tape.
- _____ 2. The weather forecaster predicted wind and snow during the coming week.
- _____ 3. The lights don't work, and the switch for the fuse is broken.
- _____ 4. Tim won't be able to attend summer school unless there is another vacancy in the class.
- _____ 5. Connecticut is a small state, but it has many places of interest.
- _____ 6. The number zero has no numerical value, nor can it be a denominator in a fraction.
- _____ 7. Compasses point north, but they do not point to the true northernmost spot on Earth.
- _____ 8. Because the weather was good, my brother played basketball outside the house.
- _____ 9. Does this computer work or should I call the repair department?
- _____ 10. I haven't had food this good since I left New York in the spring.
- _____ 11. Don't touch the computer by the window if it is still printing.
- _____ 12. Football requires a great deal of stamina, but so does soccer.
- _____ 13. Hydrofoil watercraft move at greater speeds than conventional boats because they can glide across the water.
- _____ 14. Tim rode his bike behind the house, and Fred rode his skateboard along the sidewalk.
- _____ 15. Let's lift weights at the gym before we go play tennis.
- _____ 16. Although there are many endangered species in America, there is much we can do to help them.
- _____ 17. We'll win this game if you make this field goal before the end of the half.

_____ 18. Mark Twain visited several foreign countries and wrote about the experience in *Innocents Abroad*.

_____ 19. I feel better, though I haven't regained all of my strength yet.

_____ 20. The mail hasn't come yet, nor have the boxes of books arrived.

► **Exercise 3** Underline each subordinate clause. In the blank, identify the clause as *adj.* (adjective), *adv.* (adverb), or *N* (noun).

adv. _____ Dew forms on grass before the sun comes up.

_____ 1. The streetlights automatically turn on when darkness falls.

_____ 2. The Irish firefighter is the one who rescued my cat.

_____ 3. Louisa May Alcott wrote *Little Women* when she served as a nurse during the Civil War.

_____ 4. What happened during science class surprised everybody.

_____ 5. Candles that come in many colors have only a few scents.

_____ 6. Championship games are held in whichever stadium can hold the most people.

_____ 7. Aesop wrote fables that used animals in the roles of people.

_____ 8. The principal gave awards to students whose grade averages were above 3.5.

_____ 9. Whichever color you decide to wear will be fine with me.

_____ 10. Ancient people drew pictures on cave walls whenever they wanted to record important events.

_____ 11. Tamil wants to go on a vacation where he can learn to ski.

_____ 12. Rachel is often tired in school because she goes to sleep too late.

_____ 13. Although they perform many calculations per second, computers cannot think for themselves.

_____ 14. Many students who live far from school ride school buses.

_____ 15. Since there are more than 800,000 insect species, they outnumber all other animals.

_____ 16. I know that our television is not working well.