

## Sentences with Multiple Clauses (Care of Ms. Ballard):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rationale:** Now that you have learned parts of speech, types of verbs, and the parts of a sentence, it is time to consider how to “break down” sentences with multiple clauses. This will be crucial to determining the proper pronoun to use in various sentences, figuring out how to punctuate various clause and phrase configurations, and generally will boost your writing and your editing skills. However, first you must review what a clause is!

**Definitions:** A clause is a group of words which is used as part of a sentence and which contains a **subject** and a **verb**.

Two kinds of clauses:

\*Main clause (independent clause) -- a clause that can stand alone as a sentence.

\*Subordinate clause (dependent clause) -- a clause that cannot stand alone as a sentence (required to be connected to a main clause in order to be a complete sentence).

Subordinate clauses must always be **introduced** to main clauses. There are two kinds of introducers---->

Relative pronouns:

who, whom, whose, which, what, that

Subordinating conjunctions:

after, although, as, as if, as long as, as though, because, before, if, in order that, provided that, since, so that, though, till, unless, when, where, whereas, while, why, etc. (there are WAAAAY more than you can memorize)

**Exercise #1--Recognizing Clauses--Directions:** To make sure that you understand what a clause is and what a clause is not (a phrase) read the following sentences. As you read, underline all subjects once/all verbs twice. Then circle and label the introducers as either relative pronouns (RP) or subordinating conjunctions (SC). Finally, put brackets around the subordinate clause.

1. Andrew is the one dancer [whose(RP) form is correct].
2. I took my dogs on a walk [because(SC) they were being crazy]!
3. This is a book [that(RP) we must read].
4. [Although(SC) I am overwhelmed at times], I love my dogs.
5. With great sadness Gatsby realized [that(RP) Daisy did not love him].
6. [While(SC) Deadpool is an interesting movie], I am not sure <[that(RP) it is appropriate for all audiences] / [because(SC) even Ryan Reynolds suggested] {[that(RP) parents exercise caution] [since(SC) it is rated R "for a reason." ]}/>
7. [If(SC) you are getting up], would you please get me a glass of water?
8. She cooks better [than(SC) I do].
9. She attended an art school, but I did not; she wanted to make art more [than(SC) I did].
10. I could not believe [what(RP) I heard].

**Definitions--Types of Subordinate Clauses:** There are three kinds of subordinate clauses -- adjective, adverb, and noun.

Adjective clauses:

- \*modify a noun or a pronoun
- \*tell which one, what kind, or how many
- \*are introduced **by a relative pronoun**

Example: Andrew is the one dancer whose form is correct.

Explanation: "whose form is correct" describes what kind of dancer.

Adverb clauses:

- \*modify a verb, adjective, or another adverb
- \*tell how, when, where, why, to what extent, or under what condition
- \*are introduced **by a subordinate conjunction**

Example: Although I am overwhelmed at times, I love having dogs.

Explanation: "although I am overwhelmed at times" describes the condition of my love.

Noun clauses:

- \*can be used in any way that a noun can be used (subject, DO, IO, PN, OP)
- \*can be introduced by **either a relative pronoun OR a subordinate conjunction**

Examples: Who sent the flowers is a mystery we must solve.

Why we are being hit by so many hurricanes this season remains a mystery.

Explanation: "Who sent the flowers" is functioning as the subject of the sentence (HINT: replace with "it")

"Why we are being hit by so many hurricanes this season" is functioning as the subject of the sentence.

**Exercise #2 --Kinds of Subordinate Clauses--Directions:** Read the following sentences and underline subjects once and predicates twice. Circle and identify the introducers for the subordinate clauses. Bracket the subordinate clause. Finally, identify the question the subordinate clause is answering, or the job which it is performing.

**PART A--Adjective Clauses:**

1. A dog [which(RP) is not in love with the act of playing fetch] is not a dog at all. \*What kind?
2. The dog, [whose(RP) entire life revolves around food], only loves me for the act of feeding. \*Which one?
3. The child watched the moon [which(RP) traveled across the sky]. \*Which one?
4. Tuttle is the teacher [who(RP) cannot think of interesting topics]. \*Which one?
5. He is the only person [who(RP) reads a book every day]. \*Which one?

**PART B--Adverb Clauses:**

1. [Because(SC) the Count was "a person of interest"], he was not allowed to leave the hotel. \*Why?
2. Salem, MA went mad [before(SC) reason could be reestablished in the society]. \*When?
3. [After(SC) he confessed], John Proctor refused to sign his name to the confession [because(SC) he could not face his shame]. \*When? \*Why?
4. [Wherever(SC) there is mischief], dogs must live. \*Where?/Under what condition?
5. [When(SC) Billy was kidnapped by aliens], he was remarkably calm about the process. \*When?

**PART C--Noun Clauses:**

1. Excitement is [what(RP) you are looking for]; thoughtlessness is [what(RP) has found you]. \*PN \*PN
2. [Whatever(SC) Ms. T has planned] is in our best interest! \*Subject
3. They finally understood of [what(RP) she was made]. \*OP
4. [What(RP) you said] made me angry. \*Subject
5. I believe [that(RP) he was in the wrong]. \*DO

**Exercise #3--Combined Clause Identification:** Read the following sentences and underline subjects once and predicates twice. Circle and identify the introducers for the subordinate clauses. Bracket the subordinate clause. Finally, identify the kind(s) of subordinate clause(s).

1. The narrator's doctor/husband should have realized {[that(RP) the narrator was telling the truth] [before(SC) she became fully crazy]}. \*Noun \*Adverb
2. All books are biased [when(SC) they are written by humans]. \*Adverb
3. [Because(SC) the dog was so exhausted], she flopped onto the floor. \*Adverb
4. [When(SC) the new school is built], HSPVA will move to a new home. \*Adverb
5. I know [that(RP) you are tired]. \*Noun
6. The difficulty with grammar is [that(RP) it can be tedious]. \*Noun
7. The thing [which(RP) you are hiding] is plain as day! \*Adjective
8. [Since(SC) it may be true], we must consider all of the facts. \*Adverb
9. [What(RP) you feel] is perfectly acceptable. \*Noun
10. She is a beautiful soul [whose(RP) only flaw is thinking too much]. \*Adjective