



**University center Abdelhafid Bousouf - Mila**  
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**E-Learning unit**

## English - level 1

### – Lesson 02 – English Clauses

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#### Etudiants concernés

Institut	Département	Année	Spécialité
-Lettres et Langues étrangères	- Français	-Français	Licence 1
-Sciences et Techniques	-MI- ST	-MI- ST	Licence 1
-Sciences Economique	-SE	-Toutes les spécialités	Licence 1

## Objectives of lesson 2

- i. To make students aware of the use of clauses in English.
- ii. To familiarize students with the several different kinds clauses.

### 1. Definition:

A clause is a group of words that includes at least one subject and one finite (conjugated) verb.

### Types of Clauses:

Clauses fall into three major, easily identified categories:

1. **main** (*independent*) clause, sometimes referred to as the *matrix clause*
2. **subordinate** (*dependent*) clause
3. **relative** clause

In what follows, we'll try to define and provide explanatory examples of each of the three main types.

#### 1. Independent Clause:

An independent clause, as its name clearly denotes, can stand alone as a sentence and it usually can be separated from its dependent clause. It contains a subject and a verb and it's a complete idea.

- He reads many books during the summer holidays.
- She wants to travel the world and see the wonderful sights in Australia.

#### 2. Dependent Clause:

A dependent clause is not a complete sentence (as opposed to the independent one) and it cannot stand alone having complete meaning (expressing complete thought). It

must be linked to a second clause (the independent one) within the same sentence to become complete and to make perfect sense.

- Because he reads many books (dependent clause), he usually scores exceptionally high on writing and reading tests (independent clause)

### 3. Relative Clause:

A relative clause begins with a relative pronoun, such as who, whom, whose, which, and that. Relative clauses could also have the relative adverbs where when as their first words.

- This is the house **that** he built when he was in his early forties.
- I want to live in a place **where** there is lots picturesque places to go to.
- Yesterday was a day **when** everything went according to expectations!

**Practical Assignment:**

*Join the clauses below using a relative pronoun.*

1. She has a son. Is a doctor

.....

2. I sent a letter. Arrived three weeks later

.....

3. I bought a new car. It is very fast

.....

4. The music is good. She listens to the music

.....

5. I hate the dog. The dog bit me

.....

## References

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