**Type of sentences**

A sentence may be one of four kinds, depending upon the number and types of clauses it contains

* ***Independent clause***

It contains a subject, a verb and a complete thought

Eg: I had my first computer in 2012

* ***Dependent clause***

It contains a subject, a verb but no complete thought

Eg: after I had my first computer in 2012,

1. **A simple sentence**

It has one independent clause

Eg:

-tom reads novels

-tom reads newspapers

-tom reads novels and newspapers (compound direct object)

-tom reads and enjoys novels (compound verb)

-tom and harry reads novels (compound subject)

-tom and harry reads and enjoys novels and newspapers (compound subject, verb, direct object)

**Punctuation note**

No commas separate two compound elements in a simple sentence

1. **Compound sentence**

It has two independent clauses joined by:

* A coordinating conjunction: for ,and ,nor ,but ,or ,yet ,so
* A conjunctive adverb: however, therefore
* A semicolon alone

Eg:

-tom reads novels, but jack reads comics

-tom reads novels; however, jack reads comics

-tom reads novels; his friend reads comics

**Punctuation note**

1. Independent clause, coordinating conjunction independent clause
2. Independent clause; conjunctive adverb, independent clause
3. Independent clause; independent clause

1. **A complex sentence**

It has one dependent clause (headed by a subordinating or relative pronoun) joined to an independent clause

Eg:

-although tom reads novels, jack reads comics

-jack reads novels although tom reads comics

-jack smith, who reads comics, rarely reads novels

Two ways to create dependent clauses

1. By using a subordinating conjunction to create a **subordinate clause**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Conjunction** | **Meaning** | **Example** |
| after | time sequence | I left **after** you came |
| [although](https://www.grammarbank.com/although-in-spite-of.html) | concession and contrast | **Although** I failed my last two exams, I passed. |
| as | time | Take notes **as** you read the article. |
| as far as | place | I will come with you **as far as** you go. |
| as if | manner | The man stumbled, **as if** he were about to fall. |
| as long as | conditional time | I will help you **as long as** you don't disappoint me. |
| as soon as | time | Call me **as soon as** possible. |
| because | cause | I lied to her **because** you told me to. |
| because of | cause / blame | I lied to her **because of** you. |
| before | time sequence | I left **before** you came. |
| by the time | time | Finish your worksheet **by the time** I come back. |
| even though | despite | I passed **even though** I failed my last two exams. |
| however | contrast | We spent so much time on it, **however**, the boss didn't like it. |
| in case | condition | Take your umbrella with you **in case** it rains. |
| in case of | condition | Call 911 **in case of** emergency. |
| in order to | purpose | I want to improve my English **in order to** communicate better. |
| so that | purpose | I want to improve my English **so that** I can communicate better |
| though | concession and contrast | **Though** I failed my last two exams, I passed. |
| unless | condition | I know her, she won't text me **unless** I text her first. It's stoppage time, we are going to lose the game **unless** a miracle saves us. |
| until/till | time | I have **until/till** Friday to take my grammar quiz. |
| when | time | Were they asleep **when** you arrived? |
| whenever | time | She goes shopping **whenever** she wants. |
| whereas | concession and contrast | It's only 12.30 here, **whereas** it is 5 o'clock in Margaritaville. |
| wherever | place | He follows me **wherever** I go. |

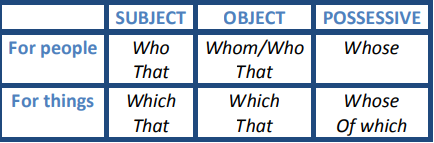
1. Using a relative pronoun to create a relative clause

A relative clause always begins with a “**relative pronoun**,” which substitutes for a noun, a noun phrase, or a pronoun when sentences are combined. Relative pronoun as subject (in red): I like the person. The person was nice to me.

Relative Clause Example:

**Diego biked to the lake where he likes to go swimming**. (Where he likes to go swimming is a relative clause. It contains the relative adverb where, the subject he, and the verb likes. The clause modifies the noun lake.)

***Defining Relative Pronouns***



I like the person. **The person** was nice to me.

=I like the person **who** was nice to me.

I hate the dog. **The dog** bit me.

=I hate the dog **that** bit me.

I am moving to Louisville, KY. **It** is home to the Muhammad Ali Museum.

=I am moving to Louisville, KY, **which** is home to the Muhammad Ali Museum.

**Relative pronoun as object (in red):**

I like the bike. My father gave me **the bike**.

=I like the bike **that** my father gave me.

**Activity with answers**

Determine whether the underlined word groups are dependent clauses, independent clauses, or not a clause.

1. 1. Although it was raining, Maria went for a jog at Civitan Park.    **Dependent Clause**
2. 2. Brianna eats chocolate whenever she gets a poor grade in math.   **Dependent Clause**
3. 3. After the flood, the family moved into a temporary shelter.   **Not a Clause (This is simply a prepositional phrase.)**
4. 4. While walking at the park, John saw a raccoon eating potato chips.    **Independent Clause**
5. 5. Students enrolled in bachelor's and associate's degree programs must pass the Regents' Test as a graduation requirement.  **Independent**
6. 6. Students who fail to show up for the Regents' test must enroll in the Regents' remediation courses.   **Dependent Clause**
7. 7. When you finish your homework, please take the dog for a walk.  **Dependent Clause**
8. 8. After Juan completed the assignment, he swam laps at the gym.   **Dependent Clause**
9. 9. Christa left home at 4:00 a.m. since she had to drive to Atlanta for a meeting.    **Dependent Clause**
10. 10. Before completing the assignment, Evan decided to eat a quick lunch.   Not a Clause

**Activity with answers**

Determine whether the underlined word groups are dependent clauses, independent clauses, or not a clause.

Juan continued playing although he injured his knee.  **Dependent clause**  
                                      sub. con.  S   Verb  
  
2. I thought that the offer was too good to be true. **Dependent clause (introduced by the relative pronoun *that***)  
  
3. While I was scrubbing the floors, Juliet was watching television.  **Dependent clause**   
4. Although tired and grumpy, Laura agreed to babysit for her sister-in-law. **Not a clause--no subject, no verb**  
  
5. Inspired and energized, Sean solved the case of the missing energy drink. **Independent clause**  
  
6. While driving home from spring break, Maria saw a tornado touch down.  **Not a clause--no subject**  
  
7. People who drink and drive should be arrested.  **Dependent clause**

8. Ever since my daughter purchased a ferret, I have noticed that authors describe their bad   
 guys as ferret-like. **Dependent clause**  
  
9. Such descriptions are not fair to ferrets. **Independent clause**  
  
10. Since I could not go to the Pancake Breakfast, I gave away my tickets. **Dependent clause**

1. **Complex-compound sentence**

It has two or more independent clauses joined to one or more dependent clause

-while Tom reads novels, Jack reads comics, but Sam reads only magazines.

Dependent independent independent

-Tom reads novels, but Jack reads comics because books are too difficult  independent independent dependent

-Jack, who reads comics, rarely reads novels; however, Tom enjoys novels

Dependent independent independent

-People who read comics rarely reads novels; they often find books difficult

Dependent independent independent

-Laura forgot her friend’s birthday, so she sent her a card when she finally remembered

Independent independent dependent