

Lesson 279

Parts of the Sentence - Adjective, Adverb, and Noun Clauses

The **adjective clause** is a **dependent clause** that modifies a **noun** or a **pronoun**. It will begin with a **relative pronoun** (*who, whose, whom, which, and that*) or a **subordinate conjunction** (*when and where*). Those are the only words that can be used to introduce an **adjective clause**. The introductory word will always rename the word that it follows and modifies except when used with a **preposition** which will come between the introductory word and the word it renames.

Examples:

The student whose hand was up gave the wrong answer.
adjective clause

Jane is a person in whom I can place my confidence.
adjective clause

An **adverb clause** is a **dependent clause** that modifies a **verb**, **adjective**, or another **adverb**. It usually modifies the **verb**. **Adverb clauses** are introduced by **subordinate conjunction** including *after, although, as, as if, before, because, if, since, so that, than, though, unless, until, when, where, and while*. These are just some of the more common ones.

Example:

They arrived before the game had ended.
adverb clause

- *before the game had ended* modifies *arrived*

A **noun clause** is a **dependent clause** that can be used in the same way as a **noun** or **pronoun**. It can be a **subject**, **predicate nominative**, **direct object**, **appositive**, **indirect object**, or **object of the preposition**. Some of the words that introduce **noun clauses** are *that, whether, who, why, whom, what, how, when, whoever, where, and whomever*. To check if the **dependent clause** is a **noun clause**, substitute the clause with the pronoun *it* or the proper form of the pronouns *he* or *she*.

Example:

I know who said that. = I know *it*.
noun clause

Whoever said it is wrong. = *He* is wrong.
noun clause

Instructions: Find the **adjective**, **adverb**, or **noun clauses** in these sentences. If it is an **adjective** or **adverb clause**, tell which word it modifies, and if it is a **noun clause** tell how they are used (**subject**, **predicate nominative**, **direct object**, **appositive**, **indirect object**, or **object of the preposition**).

1. That the tiger was gentle and tame was not certain.
2. Do not use that comb which has no teeth.
3. If the treaty is signed, the President will leave at once.
4. Patty explained how embalming is done.
5. Jack asked why the game had been canceled.