



Syntax

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Clauses

- ❖ Concept of Clause
- ❖ Parts of Clauses : Subjects (S)
Objects (O)
Verbs (V)
Complements (C)
Adverbials (A)
- ❖ Concept of Subject –Verb Concord
- ❖ Clause Patterns

What is clause?

❖ What is Clause (Cl)?

Clause is a unit of a language which consists of an NP and a VP.

If the clause can stand on its own, then it is also a sentence (S)

Cl / S – NP VP

e.g. [The train leaves in the afternoon.](#)

Cl / S – NP (AUX) VP

e.g. [Rahim has lost his pen.](#)

Clauses

S-bar

Embedded or
dependant clause

e.g. John said that Rahim has lost his pen.

Complementizers (COMP or C)

if, whether, who, when, because etc.

S-bar

$S' \rightarrow (\text{COMP})S$

e.g. John said Rahim has lost his pen.

Types of Clauses

Embedded clauses are classified on the basis of their functions

Noun Clause

Functions like
noun or Noun
Phrase

Adjectival (Relative) Clause

Functions like
adjective or
Adjective Phrase

Adverb Clause

Functions like
adverb or
Adverb Phrase

Noun Clause

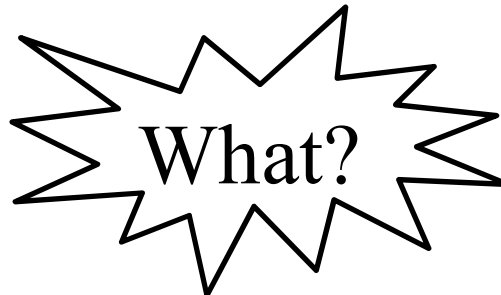
John asked *a question*.

John asked *if Mary was coming to the cinema*.

John disturbed the teacher.

The tall boy disturbed the teacher.

That John was going to Delhi disturbed the teacher.



Adjective (Relative) Clause

The *tall* boy came late to the class.

Which?

That boy *who is from a very wealthy family* never comes to class.

Adverb Clause

I will see your work *tomorrow*.

Why, When,
where, how?

I will see your work *when I am free*.

I will see your work *because you are a genius*.



Parts of Clauses

- ❖ **Subjects (S)** – Noun / NP/ Noun Clause
- ❖ **Verb (V)** – Verb / VP
- ❖ **Objects (O)** – Noun / NP/ Noun Clause
- ❖ **Complements (C)** – AdjP/ NP/ PP
- ❖ **Adverbials (A)** – AdvP / PP / Clause

Verb determines all other elements in the clause/sentence.



Subjects

Noun/NP/Noun clause that comes before the verb and answers the question ‘Who’ or ‘What’ is called **SUBJECT** of the sentence or clause.

The subject of a clause is usually ‘agent’ or ‘doer’ of the action or ‘theme’ of verb.

- a. **John** loves Mary.
- b. **The man in the white coat** broke the wall.
- c. **The sky** is blue.
- d. **The painting** looks beautiful.
- e. **That Rani likes mangoes** is known to all.
- f. **John** is known to all.



Objects

Noun/NP/Noun clause that usually comes after the verb and answers the question ‘Who/whom’ or ‘What’ is called **OBJECT** of the sentence or clause.

The object of a clause is usually ‘receiver’ or ‘goal’ of the action.

- a. Kusum is writing **a letter**. What?
- b. Balram slapped **Mukesh**. Who?
- c. Akbar believed **that all religions lead to truth**.
 What?

Objects

Transitive Verbs - e.g. write, play, eat etc.

Intransitive Verbs - e.g. cry, sleep, stand etc.

Ditransitive Verbs- e.g. give, ask, hand etc.

- a. Kusum is writing **a letter**.
- b. Salim is sleeping.
- c. The waiter handed **me** the bill. / The waiter handed the bill **to me** .
- d. John gave **Mary a book**. / John gave **a book to Mary** .
- e. Krishna asked **his mother** if he could go out to play.

Direct Object – ‘What?’



Indirect Object – ‘Who?’

Ditransitive Verbs

Complements

Compulsory Element of the sentence or clause

- a. He seems **happy**.
- b. Ayesha is **in a bad mood**.
- c. Jack is **a mathematics teacher**.
- d. They made Dhoni **the captain**.
- e. They regard the protests **as a nuisance**.

Subject Complements

happy- AdjP

in a bad mood- PP

a mathematical teacher- NP

Object Complements

the captain- NP

as a nuisance - PP

Verb like is, seem, appear etc. require complements.

Adverbials

Optional Elements of the sentence.

- a. The waiter handed me the bill *with smile*.
- b. John gave Mary a book *in the bus to read*.
- c. Krishna asked his mother if he could go out to play *yesterday*.

If you ask question to verb like ‘how, when, where, why etc.

These elements tell about the manner, time, place,
reason of the action

Subject-Verb Concord

Grammatical agreement between subject and verb

- a. Mohini **teaches** Chemistry.
- b. She **teaches** Chemistry.
- c. Ali and Maqbool **teach** Chemistry.
- d. I **teach** Chemistry,

I am playing.
They are playing,
He is playing

I was playing.
They were playing,
He was playing



THANK YOU