

Types of Clauses



Independent clauses

contain both a subject and a verb and **can** stand alone as a sentence.
Example: Jet lag affects most long distance travelers.

Dependent clauses

contain both a subject and a verb, but **cannot** stand alone as a sentence. Dependent clauses are introduced by subordinating conjunctions such as *because, what, if*
Example: Although there is no sure way to prevent jet lag.

Independent Clauses

Meaning	Coordinators	Conjunctive Adverbs	Example
To add an idea	and	in addition, furthermore, moreover, also	Women follow more healthful diets, and they go to doctors more often.
To show time or sequence		first, second, then, next, later, meanwhile, finally	First, robots can perform repetitive tasks without becoming tired or bored. Second, they can fulfill tasks requiring pinpoint accuracy.
To contrast	but yet	however, nevertheless, in contrast, on the other hand	Increasing the size of airports is one solution to traffic congestion; however, this is a long-term solution whose benefits may not be seen for many years into the future.
To show result	so	therefore, thus, consequently, as a result	Native and nonnative English speakers have different needs; therefore, most schools provide separate classes for each group.
To introduce an alternative	or	otherwise	Students must take final exams; otherwise, they receive a grade of incomplete.
To emphasize		in fact, of course, indeed, certainly	The little girl hated spiders; in fact, she was terrified by them.
To provide an example		for example, for instance	In the operating room, robotic equipment can assist the surgeon. For instance, a robot can kill a brain tumor.
To generalize or summarize		in general, overall, in short	Hermes is not only the messenger of Zeus, but the patron of thieves. In general, he is the god of authorized and unauthorized transfers.

Dependent Clauses

Types of clauses		Subordinators	Examples
1. Noun clauses		what, where, why, how, where, when, who whom, which, whose, whether, that, if	He knows that his business will be successful. That there is a hole in the ozone layer of the earth's atmosphere is well known.
2. Adjective clauses		who, whom, which, whose, that, where, when	Men who are not married are called bachelors. Last year we traveled to San Francisco, which is famous for its architecture.
3. Adverb clauses	a. time	when, before, after, until, since, as soon as	When he won the money, he decided to buy a car.
	b. place	where, wherever	She drove wherever she wanted.
	c. cause	because, as, since	She got a parking ticket because she parked illegally.
	d. purpose	so that, in order that	He drove fast so that he could get to work on time.
	e. result	so ... that, such ... that	He drove so fast that he got a speeding ticket.
	f. condition	if, unless	If she hadn't won the lottery, she would have been very unhappy.
	g. concession	although, even though	Although she thought she was a good driver, she got a lot of tickets for speeding.

Punctuation marking

With noun clauses, no commas are used.

Adjective restrictive clauses are not separated by commas, but with adjective descriptive clauses commas are used.

Adverb clauses that come before the independent clause are followed by a comma, but if they come after the independent clause, no comma is used.