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**Module: GRAMMAR Teacher: Dr. MOUAS Level: 2nd year Group: 07**

**ADVERBIAL CLAUSES**

Adverbial clauses fall into various groups depending on the subordinator. Some of these are as follows:

**1- Finite Adverbial Clauses of Time**

Express the time or duration of the action and answer such questions as **when**, **how long**, **since when**. The two actions may be simultaneous, one may follow or precede the other, it may last until the other has begun, etc.: He whistled **[while he washed the car]**. **[When he finished] he** went for a drive.

The most common subordinators introducing clauses of time are: **when, whenever, while, as, as soon as, as long as, till, until, once, since, after, before, the moment, ever since, hardly...when, no sooner... than, whilst** (F)

- I will meet you **after** I have talked to my friend, Peter.

- **As** I was walking down the beach, I ran into an old friend, Katie.

- He was determined to go to her graduation party **whenever** it was.

- **As soon as/ The moment** I get home, I’m going straight to bed.

With “**no sooner ... than**” there is inversion when we begin a sentence with “no sooner”:

- Tim had no sooner left, than the phone rang.

**- No sooner** had Tim left, **than** the phone rang.

**Note: Till/ Until** denotes the concluding moment of the action expressed in the main clause; until is usually preferred when the subordinate clause precedes the main clause:

He stood thunderstruck **till** the danger was past. **Until** she learns to behave we won’t invite her to our parties.

**Non-finite Adverbial Clauses of Time (Reduction)**

**Gerundial clauses of time** are introduced by **on** and **in**.

- On arriving at the cottage, Tom found it burnt down.

- He was mistaken in thinking she was single.

**Participial clauses of time: -ing participial clauses of time**

- **Whistling to himself**, the office-boy went out.

- **Entering the room**, he noticed that the windows were open.

- **Having travelled around Africa for nearly three years**, he wrote a book about the social conditions in that part of the world.

- **After travelling around Africa for nearly three years**, he wrote a book about the … (more common)

- **When going to his office**, he met his friend.

- **Arrived at the spot**, we lost no time in getting to work.

**Absolute participial structures**

- **The letter finishe**d, I took it to the post-office to have it registered.

**2- Adverbial Clauses of Place** are introduced mainly by specific **where** and nonspecific **wherever/ anywhere/ everywhere.**

• may indicate **position** (1) or **direction** (II):

I. **Where** the fire had been,we saw nothing.

II. They went **wherever** they could find a job.

**3- Adverbial Clauses of Cause or Reason** indicate why an action was done and answer the question **why**; while the subordinate clause denotes causer or reason, the main clause expresses result.

Subordinators: **because, as, since, seeing that, that, now that, on the grounds that, for the reason that, in that, considering (that), due to the fact (that), owing to the fact (that), inasmuch as**

- The pilot had to descend **because** he was short of fuel.

- Ann is guilty, **inasmuch as** she knew what the others were planning. (formal)

- **Since** you are unable to answer, perhaps we should ask someone else.

**-** I think we paid too much for the house, **considering that** we needed to get the roof repaired.

- The school's poor exam record is largely **due to the fact/owing to the fact that** it is underfunded.

**Non-finite Clauses of Cause and Reason**

**1. Gerundial clauses:** Owing to his careless driving he has had many accidents. He was fined for driving too quickly through the village.

**2. Participial clauses** (in initial, medial or final position): Knowing that he couldn’t go to his daughter, he tried to telephone her.

a. present participle expresses simultaneity: Knowing French well, he translated the letter without dictionary.

b. perfect participle denotes an action which precedes the action denoted by the finite verb: Having missed the bus, I was late for my appointment.

c. –ing participial clauses may have the structure of:

i. related: Having plenty of time, we did not hurry.

ii. absolute participle: A storm coming on, the children fled to a shelter.

d. past participial clauses may have the structure of:

i. related: Exhausted by the games, John didn’t want to go to the party.

ii. absolute participle: The work finished, we were able to enjoy our holiday.

**4- Adverbial Clauses of Manner** are introduced by the subordinators **as,** **as if** and **as though**.

- I feel as if I had never done you justice.

- They come to class on time **as** the teacher tells them to.

- He ate **as if** he were starving for months.

- He cried **as though** he were a baby.

. I was never allowed to do things **the way** I wanted to do them.

**Note** that as can be an adverb clause connector of time and reason.For example:

- We will keep you informed **as** the decision is made. (time)

- **As** no one was in the house to stop it, the fire caught on very quickly. (reason)

She cleaned her room **as** her parents told her to. (manner)

**5- Adverbial Clauses of Concession** express a contrast with the main clause. Common subordinators of such clauses are **although, even though, though, whereas**, and **while.**

- **Although** I can't help admiring the man's courage, I do not approve of his methods.

- **While** there was no conclusive evidence, most people thought he was guilty.

- **Whereas** the city spent over $1 billion on its museums and stadium, it failed to look after its schools.

Alternatively, **prepositional expressions** can also be used to express a contrast.

**In spite of** hav**ing** a lot of experience, she didn’t get the job.

. **Despite** hav**ing** a lot of experience, she didn’t get the job.

**6- Adverbial Clauses of Similarity** are introduced by **as/like** which are commonly premodified by **exactly/just**

Please do (**exactly) as I said.**

It was (**just) like I imagined it would be.**

**7- Adverbial Clauses of Condition** are introduced by: **if, whether... or not** (for two or more alternatives)**, on condition (that), provided (that), provided (that)** (=only if)**, providing (that), suppose (that), supposing (that), given (that), in case (that), unless** (=if not, except if)**, assuming (that)**, **Imagine**

**- If you put the baby down**, she will scream.

- **Assuming that** the movie starts at eight, we should leave now.

- **Given that** x=y, then x+a = y+a. (formal argument)

Marion wants me to type the letter **if possible**. (Verbless clause)

**Unless otherwise instructed**, you should leave by the back exit. (Nonfinite clause)

 Adverbs: **otherwise**: We must act now, otherwise the prison population will double.

 Prepositions: **but for, in case of**.

- I might never have got to university **but for** you.

- Take your umbrella **in case of** rain.

**8- Adverbial Clauses of Result (Finite Clauses of Result or Consequence)**

Clauses of result denote the result of the action expressed in the main clause; they answer the question With what result? and are connected with the main clause by the phrasal conjunction so that or by that:

He left after seven so that he must have caught the 8.15 train. She must be blind that she doesn’t realize what a drunkart he is.

They are introduced by subordinating conjunctions: **so (that)** (=for that reason), **so\* (adjective/adverb) (that)**, **such\* (noun) (that).**

- It was hot **so (that)** I turned on the air-conditioning.

- Her business was **so** successful **that** Marie was able to retire at the age of 50.

- It's **such** a tiny kitchen **that** I don't have to do much to keep it clean.

**Note:** There is inversion with “so...that” and “such...that” after “so” and “such”, when they are used at the beginning of a sentence:

**Such** is the popularity of the play **that** the theatre is likely to be full every night.

**So** successful was her business **that** Marie was able to retire at the age of 50.

**So** badly was he affected **that** he had to be taught to speak again.

**Some other ways of expressing result:**

1. nominal phrases: such a + singular countable noun + that clause It was such a dismal performance that I left before it was over.

2. adjectival phrases: so + adjective + that-clause They were so tired that they couldn’t go any further.

3. adverbial phrases: so + adverb + that-clause He has gone so far that there is no retreat for him.

**Non-Finite Clauses of Result or Consequence**

are infinitival clauses functioning as postmodifiers in nominal adjectival or adverbial phrases:

nominal phrases

- enough + noun + infinitival clause: We haven’t got enough money to buy a new house.

- too + adjective + an + noun + infinitival clause: Politics is too serious a business to be played with.

- such + noun + as + infinitival clause such + as + infinitival clause I hope you are not such a fool as to lend him money.

adjectival phrases:

- adjective + enough + infinitival clause I’m lucky enough to know her.

- too + adjective + infinitival clause, used as SC Yesterday I was too tired to play tennis.

- so + adjective + as + infinitival clause She was so lucky as to escape.

adverbial phrases:

- too + adverb + infinitival clause She ran too slowly to win the first prize.

- adverb + enough + infinitival clause She plays the piano well enough to perform at a concert.

**9- Adverbial Clauses of Purpose** are introduced by subordinating conjunctions: **in order that**, **in order to**, **in order not to**, **so as to**, **so** ... (adjective) **as to**, **so as not to**, **so** ... (adjective) **as not to**.

**- In order that/ So/ So that** we can meet our deadlines, we’d appreciate your ideas by tomorrow.

- The colours need to be bolder **in order to / so as to** make the design stand out.

- I agreed to her suggestion **in order not to/ so as not to** upset her.

**10- Adverbial Clauses of Preference are** usually **nonfinite clauses introduced by: rather than, sooner than** (+bare infinitive of the verb)

**- Rather than go there by air**, I’d take the train.

- They’ll fight to the finish **sooner than surrender.**