

SYLLABUS OF INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH GRAMMAR IN USE

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TYPES OF CLAUSE:

Independent vs Dependent Clauses

Clause: Definition and Types

A **clause** is a group of related words that contains a **subject** and a **verb**.

Clause = **Subject** + **Verb**

Clauses are the basic **building blocks of sentences** in the English language.

Independent and **dependent** clauses are two types of clauses in the English language.

Independent clauses (IC)

An **independent clause** is a group of related words that contains a subject and a verb and **expresses a complete thought**.

**Independent Clause =
Complete Thought**

Independent clause can be a **complete sentence** if they **begin** with a **capital letter** and have an **end point (punctuation)**, such as: period (.), question mark (?), or exclamatory point (!).

Independent clauses (IC)

Examples:

I picked a flower for you → Clause

I picked a flower for you. → Sentence

My mom is nice → Clause

My mom is nice! → Sentence

The woman sang → Clause

The woman sang? → Sentence

Dependent clauses (DC)

Dependent clauses contain a subject and a verb, but do not express a complete thought.

**Dependent Clause =
Incomplete Thought**

A dependent clause is not a complete sentence.

The following words in **purple** are called **dependent marker words** and will be explained in the next section.

Dependent clauses (DC)

Examples:

When I picked a flower for you

What happened when I picked the flower?
This is not a complete thought or sentence.

If my mom is nice

What happens if my mom is nice? This is not a complete thought or sentence.

While my teacher taught me to read

What happened while my teacher taught me to read? This is not a complete thought or sentence.

Because the woman sang

What happened because the woman sang?
This is not a complete thought or sentence.

Dependent clauses (DC)

Dependent clauses usually start with a **dependent marker word**, as shown in **purple** in the previous examples.

The **Dependent clause (DC)** must be **connected** with an **Independent Clause (IC)** to make a complete sentence

Example:

I planted flowers
because I like flowers.



Dependent clauses (DC)

Some common dependent marker words:

- After
- Although
- As
- As if
- Because
- Before
- Even if
- Even though
- If
- In order to
- Since
- Though
- Unless
- Until
- Whatever
- When
- Whenever
- Whether
- While

How Clauses build a sentence

1. Simple Sentence

IC can be a sentence if it begins with capital letter and ends with end point .

Examples:

I picked a flower for you → IC

I picked a flower for you. → Sentence

My mom is nice → IC

My mom is nice! → Sentence

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: type 1

Connecting dependent and independent clauses

1. Connect independent clauses with coordinating conjunctions

Independent Clause + Coordinating Conjunction + Independent Clause

Example:

My mother is sleeping, **and** my father is reading a book.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: type 1

Coordinating conjunctions are connecting words that are used to connect **independent clauses**. There are seven coordinating conjunctions:

FANBOYS

For
And
Nor
But
Or
Yet
So

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: type 1

The **coordinating conjunction** is placed **before** the second independent clause. A **comma** is used before the coordinating conjunction.

Examples:

She likes to cook carrots, but he likes to eat them raw.

She likes to cook carrots and He likes to eat them raw are both independent clauses because they are complete sentences. They are connected with the coordinating conjunction but.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: type 1

Richard wanted to see a movie, so Lisa drove him to the theater.

Richard wanted to see a movie and Lisa drove him to the theater are both **independent clauses** because they are **complete sentences**. They are connected with the coordinating conjunction so.

The dog was fast, yet the cat got away by climbing the fence.

The dog was fast and The cat got away by climbing the fence are both **independent clauses** because they are **complete sentences**. They are connected with the coordinating conjunction yet.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: **type 2**

Connect independent clauses with a semicolon (;)

Independent Clause + ; + Independent Clause

Example:

My mother is sleeping; my father is reading a book.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: **type 2**

Semicolons can connect two **independent clauses**, without using a coordinating conjunction.

Examples:

The dog likes my blanket; he sleeps on my bed.

The trees are beautiful; it is autumn here.

That chair broke; it is time to buy a new one.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: **type 2**

Semicolons can connect two **independent clauses**, without using a coordinating conjunction.

Examples:

The dog likes my blanket; he sleeps on my bed.

The trees are beautiful; it is autumn here.

That chair broke; it is time to buy a new one.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: type 3

Connect IC with an independent marker word

Independent Clause + Independent Marker Word +
Independent Clause

Example:

My mother is sleeping; however my father is reading a book.

Independent marker words are another way to connect clauses. These words are used at the beginning of an **independent clause**.

How Clauses build a sentence

2. Compound Sentence: type 3

Some common independent marker words:

also

consequently

furthermore

however

moreover

nevertheless

therefore

How Clauses build a sentence

3. Complex Sentence

Complete DC with IC

Independent Clause + **Dependent Clause**

Example:

My father is reading a book + **because my mother is sleeping**

OR

Independent Clause + , + **Dependent Clause**

Example:

Because my mother is sleeping, **my father is reading a book**

How Clauses build a sentence

Uses Review:

Incorrect example: He is wearing a sweater, he is cold.

Correct example: He is wearing a sweater because he is cold.

Correct example: Because he is cold, he is wearing a sweater.

Correct example: He is wearing a sweater, and he is cold.

Correct example: He is wearing a sweater; he is cold.

Correct example: He is wearing a sweater. He is cold.

Correct example: He is wearing a sweater. Therefore, he is cold.

TYPES OF CLAUSE:

Communicative Function Based

(Declarative, Interrogative, Exclamative, Imperative)

Clause Types: Communicative Function Based

Clause Type	Example	(typical) Communicative Function
1. Declarative.	<i>Kyle is digging a hole</i>	Statement
2. Interrogative	<i>Is Kyle digging a hole? Could Kyle dig a hole?</i>	Question Request/Question
3. Exclamative	<i>What a deep hole he's dug!</i>	Exclamation
4. Imperative	<i>Dig a hole!</i>	Directive

Actually, these types of clause also can be categorized as sentence since the clauses begins with capital letter and ends with end point.

Thus, next, we'll talk about sentence related to these types of clause.

What is a sentence?

- A sentence is a group of words that **makes sense.**
- A sentence expresses a **complete thought.**
- A sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with appropriate terminal punctuation mark.
- A sentence has at least **one subject** and **one verb.**

There are four types of sentences by function/meaning.

- **Declarative** Sentence – statement
- **Interrogative** Sentence - Question
- **Imperative** Sentence – Command and Request
- **Exclamatory** Sentence

Declarative sentence

- A declarative sentence **makes a statement.**
- It is punctuated by a **period.**

Examples: **The concert begins in two hours.**

Green is my favorite color.

Addis Ababa is the capital city of Ethiopia.

I love my country.

Dr. Abegaz is the founder of Cardiac Center.

True love never fades with time.

Interrogative Sentence

- An interrogative sentence asks a question.
- It ends in a question Mark(?)
- An indirect question ends with a period(.)
- There are four different types of interrogative sentences: Wh-questions, yes or no questions, alternative questions, tag questions

Types of Interrogative Sentences

**Yes - No
Questions**

Are you a nurse?

**Wh-
Questions**

Who are you?

**Alternative
Questions**

Is this room yours or
Kebede's?

Imperative Sentence

- An imperative sentence gives an order or makes a polite request. Imperatives can also express good wish.
- It ends with a period or exclamation mark (./!)

Example

Please lower your voice.

Meet me at the town square.

Would you close the door please?

Eat your lunch.

Have a good time at the picnic.

May you live long!

Exclamatory Sentence

- An exclamatory sentence **expresses strong feelings, great emotion or excitement.**
- It ends with **exclamation mark.**

Examples:

Wow! That is great news!

The river is rising!

The house is on fire!

Oh, what a great job!

What an interesting story!

Practice Questions

Identify the sentence types.

- What Kind of candy do you like?
- Wow, you did great!
- I love to watch old movies.
- Go and bring me some paper.