

Relative Pronouns and Relative Adverbs

A *relative pronoun* or *relative adverb* relates an adjective clause to the word or words the clause modifies.

EXAMPLE One of the slides **that we saw** showed the hospital **where I was born**. [*That* relates *we saw* to *slides*. *Where* relates *I was born* to *hospital*.]

EXERCISE A Underline each adjective clause, and circle each relative pronoun or relative adverb.

Example 1. Last night was the first time that she conducted the orchestra.

1. Is Rafael the one who wrote the poem about trees in winter?
2. Starr Auditorium is the place where I first heard *English Folk Song Suite*.
3. The river that was polluted by the factory has been restored to its natural state.
4. Ms. Pollard is the teacher for whom I wrote my history report about the Gulf War.
5. He won't be able to come until Saturday, when he has a day off from his job.
6. The famous author, whose novel I read, visited our school.
7. Gettysburg, where a famous battle was fought in the Civil War, is in southern Pennsylvania.
8. I was awake at dawn, which is too early.
9. The newspaper printed a picture of the old barn in which the stolen money was found.
10. I know a few lines of the poem that Kerry quoted on television.

EXERCISE B On the lines provided, add an adjective clause to each of the following sentences. Then, circle the relative pronoun or relative adverb in each adjective clause.

Example 1. The student has a cold. The student who left early has a cold.

11. The director will present his new film at the film festival. _____

12. A cat is rolling in the grass. _____

13. My aunt and uncle drove through New Mexico. _____

14. The band will play at the dance. _____

15. Clare and Ruben wrote the class song. _____

The Adverb Clause A

6e. An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.

An adverb clause tells *where, when, how, why, to what extent, or under what condition*. Unlike an adverb or an adverb phrase, an adverb clause has a subject and a verb.

EXAMPLES Did you see the manatee exhibit **when you visited the aquarium?** [The adverb clause modifies the verb *Did see*, telling *when*.]

The dolphin show was just as entertaining as **it was before.** [The adverb clause modifies the adjective *entertaining*, telling *to what extent*.]

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the adverb clause and circle the word or words it modifies.

Example 1. Before I left the aquarium, I had learned many facts about some of our most common sea animals.

1. A lobster fears few enemies because it has a hard, protective shell.
2. A shark can swim faster than a human can.
3. The life expectancy of a sea turtle is not as long as it once was.
4. When an octopus is attacked, it can spray a jet of inky fluid at its opponent.
5. Up close at night, a coral reef is more beautiful than you can imagine.
6. When a moray eel feels threatened, it withdraws into its hiding place.
7. A sea cow can swim faster than you might think.
8. The sting of most jellyfish can be dangerous unless it is treated.
9. A puffer inflates itself like a balloon until its attacker swims away.
10. Ice fish live where temperatures sometimes drop below freezing.

EXERCISE B On the lines provided, complete the adverb clauses in each of the following sentences.

Example 1. No one has broken the shot put record since Alex set it in 1995.

11. While _____, Bert took the lasagna out of the oven.
12. The salsa dancers were upset because _____.
13. The spy hid the documents where _____.
14. As soon as _____, people swarmed into the Amazon jungle.
15. Kim can throw a football farther than _____.

The Adverb Clause B

6e. An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.

An adverb clause tells *where, when, how, why, to what extent, or under what condition*. An adverb clause is introduced by a **subordinating conjunction**—a word or word group that shows the relationship between the adverb clause and the word or words the clause modifies. Common subordinating conjunctions include *although, as, because, if, since, so that, than, unless, until, when, where, and while*.

EXAMPLES **As the storm clouds gathered**, a waterspout formed over the bay. [The adverb clause modifies the verb *formed*, telling *when*.]

Brad can run faster **than anyone else on the track team can**. [The adverb clause modifies the adverb *faster*, telling *to what extent*.]

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the adverb clause and circle the word or words it modifies.

Example 1. After I had locked the door behind me, I realized I had left my keys inside the house.

- Please read whenever you like.
- Regis looked as though he had been caught in a rainstorm.
- None of you should build a campfire until you have learned the proper technique.
- If your uncle comes to the reunion tomorrow, ask him about his experiences in Indonesia.
- Paolo mixed the pancake batter carefully so that there wouldn't be any lumps.
- Ever since James hiked the Appalachian Trail, he has been in better shape.
- We traveled slowly unless we were forced to go faster.
- Although she wrote a book set in the Galápagos Islands, she has never been there.
- After the rainstorm ended, the droplets on the leaves of the trees sparkled like diamonds.
- I recited the poem more dramatically than she did.

EXERCISE B Underline the adverb clause in each of the following sentences. Then, circle the subordinating conjunction.

Example 1. The cat won't do tricks unless you give it treats.

- Until Maya brings the eggplant, we won't be able to start dinner.
- Clarence is a much better bicycle mechanic than I am.
- The cat batted its toy mouse under the refrigerator so that no one could reach it.
- Vladimir played the piano as though his life depended on it.
- Because the sky is clear, we will have a good view of the meteor shower.