

CHAPTER - VIII

Adverb Clauses

Some subordinate clauses are called adverb clauses because they work like adverbs in **the** sentences. For example, study the following sentences:

- 1a. It always rains *after I have watered the plants in the garden.*
- 1b. They arrived *where nobody had set foot before.*
- 1c. Do it *as your teacher showed you.*
- 1d. I wrote in the diary *so that I wouldn't forget.*
- 1e. I couldn't go to the fair *because I was busy.*

The clauses in italics are adverbs and they tell us respectively about the time, the place, the manner, the purpose and the reason of the verb found in the main clause. Ask questions like *when, where, how, to what purpose and why* respectively after the verbs *rains, arrived, do, wrote, and couldn't go* respectively. You will get the adverb clauses as your answers. Similarly, in the following sentences :

- 2a. The pupils worked harder *than we had thought.*
- 2b. They studied hard *although they were tired.*
- 2c. *If you study hard,* you will be successful.

The clauses in italics are adverbs of *comparison, concession and condition* respectively.

Different adverb clauses start with the words as given below:

- *Time* - *after, before, when, whenever, while, as, as soon as, by (the time), since, till, until, once, etc.*
- *Place* - *where, wherever, every where, etc.*
- *Manner* - *as, as (adj/adv) as, as if, as though, how, etc.*
- *Purpose* - *so that, in order that, etc.*
- *Reason* - *because, as, since, etc.*
- *Comparison* - *than, as (adj/adv) as,*
- *Concession* - *although, though, even though, however, no matter how, whether, etc.*
- *Condition* - *if, unless, provided, supposing, etc*

Activity - 1 :

Complete the following sentences with adverb clauses starting with the word(s) given in brackets.

We reached home _____(when)

Ramesh ran _____(so fast that)

You wouldn't succeed _____(if)

The sum is not as difficult _____(as)

The thief behaved _____(as if)

You should rest _____(because)

My friends will come _____(even if)

He speaks better _____(than)

The thief hid the jewellery _____(where)

The man is absolutely honest _____(even though)

Activity - 2 :

Identify the adverb clauses and mention what kinds of adverbs they are:

Train up the children in the way they should go.

As the dog returns to his vomit, so a fool returns to his folly.

Where there is no vision, the people suffer.

Do unto others as they would do unto you.

We went out to play as the weather became better.

Although he went to the market, he forgot to buy the vegetables.

Whether you join the picnic or not, you will have to pay the money.

You can't cheat him even though he is very simple.

Provided you are in need, we shall help you.

We keep food in the fridge so that it remains fresh.

Let us consider the following sentences:

3a. *If you heat ice*, it melts. Ice melts *if you heat it*.

3b. *If you work hard*, you will get a first division.

You will get a first division *if you work hard*.

3c. *If wishes were horses*, beggars would ride them.

Were wishes horses, beggars would ride them.

3d. *If he had arrived in time*, he could have witnessed the match.

Had he arrived in time, he could have witnessed the match.

Pay attention to the **commas** in 3a-d. They are there if the adverb clauses are in the beginning of the sentences. Mark the alternative sentences without commas . Now, let us look at the verbs used in the main clauses as well as in the adverb clauses.

	<i>Tense in the adverb clause</i>	<i>Tense in the main clause</i>
3a.	present simple	present simple
3b.	present simple	modal present with will / shall
3c.	past simple	modal past with would /could / might
3d.	past perfect	modal past with would /could / might + perfect marker

All these adverb clauses suggest conditions. We have already discussed that clauses of condition begin with *if, unless, provided, supposing, etc.* Most of the sentences with adverb clauses of condition follow the tense pattern as given above. These clauses of condition suggest different meanings also.

- 3a. (*zero conditional - facts*)- General statements like universal or scientific truth. *If* can be replaced by *when(ever), everytime (that)*
- 3b. (*first conditional with 50 -50 chance*)- Open real condition that may or may not be fulfilled. The present tense in the adverb clause of condition has a future meaning. Other present tense forms can also be used in the conditional clause.
- 3c. (*second conditional - imaginary condition*)- Hypothetical condition that is never possible.
- 3d. (*third conditional - unfulfilled condition*)- Possible in the past but impossible at present. The past condition was not fulfilled. So the result was not achieved.

Activity - 3 :

Match the adverb clauses with the corresponding main clauses. Then rewrite the sentences starting with the main clauses.

Adverb clause of condition

Main clauses

If you pour oil on water	I could have arrived there on time.
If you heat iron	you can understand.
If the sun sets	you would have got a first class.
If it rains today	I would take you to her place.
If you read the lesson	it floats.
If we start now	I would fly in the sky.
If I had wings	it expands.
If I knew her address	we can reach there in time.
If you had not reminded me	I shall not go out.
If you had studied more sincerely	it becomes dark.

Activity - 4 :

Complete the following sentences using main clauses (Don't forget the commas.):

If you meet him, _____	If Mahatma Gandhi were alive today, _____
Had I the wings of a dove, _____	If you boil water upto 100°C, _____
If India had won this match, _____	If my friend comes in time, _____
If you are not watching TV, _____	If I were you, _____
If you had driven more carefully, _____	If Germany had won the World War-'II, _____

Sentence types

We learnt that a simple sentence must have only one clause. If there are more than one clause, the sentence may be complex or compound. Let us consider these sentences:

- 1a. *I came (there) (early in the morning).*
- 1b. *I came, I saw, (and) I conquered.*
- 1c. *I came early so that I would not miss the first part of the film.*
- 1d. *He promised that he would come and help me.*
- 1e. *He sealed the letter as soon as he had written it and dropped it in the post-box
which was nearest to his house.*

1a is a **simple** sentence with one verb: *came*. So, it has only one clause.

1b is a **compound** sentence containing three independent clauses. The first of them is the main clause (*I came.*) and the other two are coordinate clauses (*I saw. And I conquered.*)

1c is a **complex** sentence because it has only one main clause (*I came early.*) and a subordinate adverb clause of reason (*so that I would not miss the first part of the film.*).

Ask, 'Why did I come early?'

1d is another complex sentence because it has only one main clause (*He promised (it).*).

He promised (what?) - Two things: *He would come. And he would help me.* That means the verb *promised* has two noun clause objects coordinate to each other but in a combined way subordinate to the main clause. [Main Cl.- Noun1 + Noun2]

1e. is a compound sentence containing two independent clauses (*He sealed the letter. He dropped it in the post-box.*) That both the main clause and the coordinate clause have subordinate clauses is another matter. The main clause has a subordinate adverb clause of time (*As soon as he had written it.*) The coordinate clause has a subordinate relative clause (*Which was nearest to his house.*) [Main Cl - Adv of time + Coordinate Cl - Relative Cl]

Activity - 5 :

Study the following sentences and mention whether they are simple (**S**), complex (**X**), or compound(**D**) sentences:

- i. The sun is shining and the day is quite warm.
- ii. The day is quite warm because the sun is shining.
- iii. The sun is bright, warm and not very unpleasant.
- iv. Make hay while the sun shines.
- v. Please call that girl, who has blue eyes.
- vi. What you told me is entirely false.
- vii. This is not what I asked for.
- viii. I know you were inattentive and didn't listen to me.
- ix. Don't be inattentive in the class.
- x. Waste not, want not.
- xi. It isn't true that he cheated in the examination.
- xii. I am sorry that he has been disturbed.
- xiii. The man you saw through the window has gone.
- xiv. I met him as I was leaving the house.
- xv. They answered better than I had hoped.
- xvi. I am taking an umbrella in case it rains.
- xvii. The memory of what the teacher had said still burned within him.
- xviii. The sun is shining, the day is warm and the birds are singing.

Activity - 6 :

Find the noun and adverb clauses in the sentences given in the previous question. Mention why they are noun clauses or what type of adverb clauses they are.

Activity - 7 :

Combine the following pairs of sentences first into **complex sentences** and then into **compound ones**. [You may change the order of sentences in each pair, if you like.]

Call on me tomorrow.	+	I will give you the money then.
I can't go.	+	I have no ticket.
The days are unlucky.	+	We mustn't give up hope.
The day was very cold.	+	I had to take a woolen sweater.
I broke a tooth.	+	I had to go to see the dentist.

Activity - 8 :

Find out the **subordinate clauses** in the following passage and say what type of clauses they are. Mention why you think so.

Tuni asks Tuna, "Please go to the shop for me and buy a packet of milk and, if they have eggs, get six." A short time later, Tuna comes back with six packets of milk. Tuni asks him, "Why did you buy so much milk?" He replies, "They have eggs."

Note:

In these two chapters, you learnt about the following types of clauses:

1. Independent clauses including the **main** clause and the **coordinate** main clause.
2. Dependent or subordinate clauses including the **noun** clause, **relative** or adjective clause, and **the adverb** clauses including the conditional ones.

You have also learnt about two dependent clauses being coordinate to each other and together being subordinate to another independent clause.

You haven't been told anything about the **parenthetical** clause. You will learn about it afterwards.

In this chapter, you also learnt about **simple**, **complex** and **compound** sentences. You needn't know about the double or multiple compound sentences now. The main thing is that you should write correct sentences, not long sentences.

