

# Adverb clause

## Definition:

An adverb clause is a dependent clause that functions as an adverb in a sentence. It modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb by answering questions such as "**how?**", "**when?**", "**where?**", "**why?**", "**under what condition?**", or "**to what extent?**".

## Structure:

An adverb clause generally begins with a subordinating conjunction (e.g., because, although, if, when, where, etc.) and contains a subject and a verb. The subordinating conjunction introduces the clause and connects it to the main clause.

## Examples of adverb clauses:

1. "**She went to the store because she needed some groceries.**" - The adverb clause "because she needed some groceries" modifies the verb "went" and answers the question "why?".
2. "**I will go for a walk if it stops raining.**" - The adverb clause "if it stops raining" modifies the verb "will go" and introduces a condition.
3. "**He studied hard so that he could pass the exam.**" - The adverb clause "so that he could pass the exam" modifies the verb "studied" and indicates purpose.



## Functions of adverb clauses:

1. **Modifying verbs:** Adverb clauses provide information about how, when, where, or why an action takes place, modifying the verb in the main clause. Example: "**She cried because she was sad.**" - The adverb clause "**because she was sad**" provides information about why she cried.
2. **Modifying adjectives:** Adverb clauses can provide information about the extent or degree of an adjective, modifying it. Example: "**He is so tall that he can reach the top shelf.**" - The adverb clause "**that he can reach the top shelf**" modifies the adjective "tall" and indicates the extent of his height.

3. **Modifying other adverbs:** Adverb clauses can provide information about how, when, where, or why an action takes place in relation to another adverb, modifying it. Example: "**She walks faster than I do when she is in a hurry.**" - The adverb clause "**when she is in a hurry**" modifies the adverb "**faster**" and provides information about when the action of walking faster occurs.

## Tips for using adverb clauses:

1. **Use appropriate subordinating conjunctions:** Choose the correct subordinating conjunction to introduce the adverb clause based on the intended meaning and relationship with the main clause.
2. **Understand the function of the adverb clause:** Identify whether the adverb clause is modifying a verb, an adjective, or another adverb, and choose the appropriate subordinating conjunction accordingly.
3. **Place the adverb clause appropriately:** Adverb clauses can be placed at the beginning or end of a sentence, or in the middle, depending on the intended emphasis and clarity.
4. **Punctuate correctly:** Use commas to set off adverb clauses that come at the beginning of a sentence, but do not use commas when the adverb clause comes after the main clause.
5. **Be clear and concise:** Make sure the adverb clause provides relevant and necessary information without making the sentence too complex or wordy.