

English With Nimafar

Clauses

Overview:

Clauses are the heart of English grammar. They help us build strong sentences—from the simplest ideas to the most complex ones.

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- ✓ Understand the different types of clauses.
- ✓ Use independent and dependent clauses correctly.
- ✓ Form adjective, adverb, and noun clauses.
- ✓ Avoid common mistakes with punctuation and conjunctions.
- ✓ Apply advanced grammar structures using complex clauses.

Date:

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What Is a Clause?

A **clause** is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb. It can be either a complete sentence or a part of a sentence.

✂ Examples:

✓ I love pizza. 🍕

✓ When she arrived, I was cooking. 🍳

◆ Two Main Types:

Type	Explanation	Example
Independent Clause	Can stand alone as a sentence	She is reading a book. 📖
Dependent Clause	Cannot stand alone; needs support	Because it was raining ☔

💡 **Tip:** Every sentence in English has at least one clause!

Independent Clauses

A **dependent clause** cannot stand alone. It depends on an independent clause to make sense.

💠 Begins with words like: because, although, when, if, unless, since

📌 Examples:

✓ Although I was tired, I went to work. zzz

✓ If you study hard, you'll pass. 📖

✗ **Incorrect:** Because I was late.

✓ **Correct:** Because I was late, I missed the bus. 🚌

Adjective Clauses (Relative Clauses)

An **adjective clause** describes a noun and begins with a relative pronoun: *who, which, that, whose, whom*.

📌 Examples:

✓ The woman **who lives next door** is a doctor. 👩

✓ I read a book **that inspired me**. 📖

💡 Use **who** for people and **which/that** for things.

✗ Common Mistakes:

✗ The man **which** lives here is friendly. ✗

✓ The man **who** lives here is friendly. ✓

Adverb Clauses

An **adverb clause** describes when, where, why, or how something happens.

◆ Begins with: *because, although, since, when, after, before, while, if, unless*

✂ Examples:

✓ I'll call you **when I arrive**. 📞

✓ **Because he was hungry**, he ate three burgers. 🍔🍔🍔

💡 You can move these clauses to the beginning or end of the sentence!

✓ **If it rains**, we'll stay inside. ☔

✓ We'll stay inside **if it rains**. ✅

Noun Clauses

A **noun clause** acts as a subject, object, or complement in a sentence.

◆ Begins with: *that, what, whatever, who, whoever, how, when, where, why*

✂ Examples:

✓ **What you said** surprised me. 😲

✓ I don't know **why she left**. 🚪

💡 They often answer *what?* or *who?*

✗ Mistake:

✗ I don't know what did she say. ✗

✓ I don't know **what she said**. ✅

Combining Clauses (Compound & Complex Sentences)

To make writing richer, we combine clauses.

◆ Compound Sentence:

2 Independent Clauses + Coordinating Conjunction

✓ I was tired, **but** I kept studying. 📖

◆ Complex Sentence:

Independent Clause + Dependent Clause

✓ **Although I was nervous**, I gave the speech. 🗣️

💡 Use commas after dependent clauses when they come first!

Advanced Notes

! Run-on Sentences

❌ I love this movie it is amazing. ❌

✓ I love this movie. It is amazing. ✓

✓ I love this movie, and it is amazing. ✓

! Fragment Clauses

❌ When he arrived. ❌ (Incomplete thought)

✓ When he arrived, we had dinner. ✓

✓ Nominal Clauses in Formal Writing

✓ That she resigned **was unexpected**. 📝

✓ Subjunctive in Noun Clauses

✓ I suggest that he **be** on time. (Not “is”) ⌚

✓ Reduced Clauses (For fluency and style)

✓ Students **living in dorms** must follow the rules.

(= Students **who live** in dorms)

Final Review & Key Takeaways

✓ Every clause has a subject and verb.

✓ Use **independent clauses** for complete ideas.

✓ Use **dependent clauses** to add detail, reason, or time.

✓ Master **adjective, adverb, and noun clauses** to enrich your writing.

✓ Combine clauses for more fluent, complex sentences.

✓ Avoid fragments and run-ons.

✓ Advanced English often involves reduced and mixed clauses.

Examples 📖

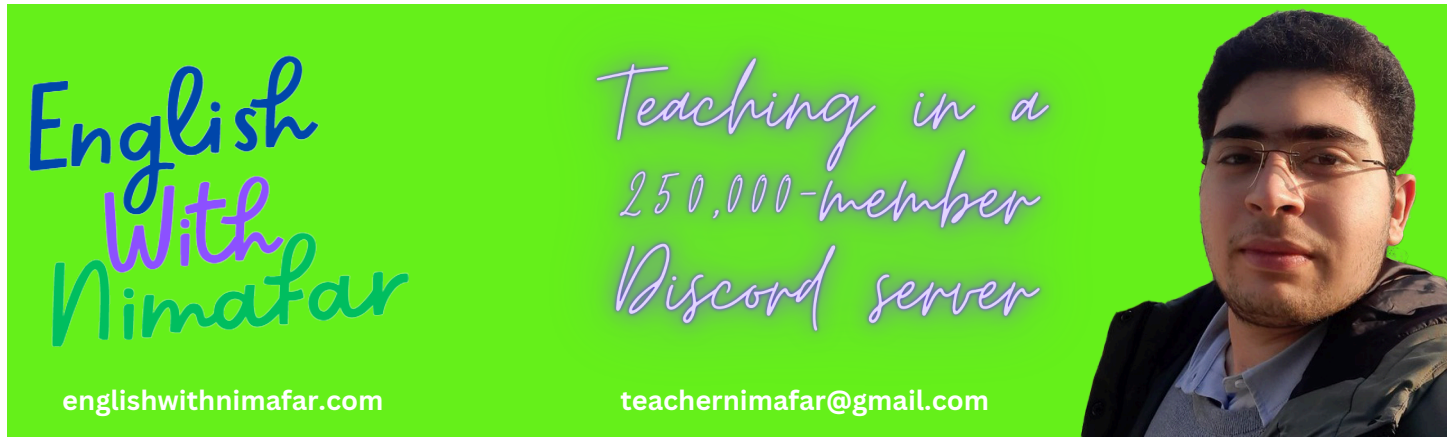
1. I like pizza. 🍕

2. She is sleeping. 😴
3. He goes to school every day. 🏫
4. We are watching a movie. 🎬
5. They play football on Saturdays. ⚽
6. When it rains, I stay home. ☁️
7. I eat dinner after I finish work. 🍴
8. She smiled because she was happy. 😊
9. If it's cold, wear a jacket. 🧥
10. He left early although he wasn't tired. 🚶
11. The girl who lives next door is my friend. 🏠
12. I don't know what she wants. ❓
13. I'll call you when I arrive. 📞
14. He didn't come because he was sick. 🤒
15. The movie that we watched was amazing. 🎥
16. I was surprised that he called me. 📞
17. She works hard so that she can succeed. 💼
18. I met a man who speaks five languages. 🗣️
19. While I was cooking, the phone rang. 🔔
20. Although it was late, they kept talking. ⌚
21. I will go if I finish my homework. 📝
22. Whoever finishes first wins the prize. 🏆
23. The teacher explained why the answer was wrong. ❌
24. The man whose car was stolen is angry. 🚗
25. After she graduates, she will move abroad. 🎓
26. I didn't hear what he said. 💡
27. Wherever you go, I will follow. 👣
28. Since you're here, let's start the meeting. 📅
29. What you said really hurt me. 💔
30. Because I trust her, I told her everything. 🤝
31. Not only did he win, but he also broke a record. 🏅
32. The reason why I left was personal. 🔒
33. If I had known, I would have helped. 🧠
34. He acted as if nothing had happened. 😐
35. That she was accepted surprised everyone. 🎉
36. I know a place where we can study quietly. 🤫
37. Even though I was tired, I kept running. 🏃
38. I met a writer whose book changed my life. 📖
39. The longer I wait, the more nervous I get. ⌚

40. I suggest that he be more careful next time. ⚠

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