

(7) AC – (Subordinate) Adverbial Clause Forms

The seventh Sentence Forms are the **(Subordinate) Adverbial Clause (AC) Forms**.

All subordinate adverbial clauses are called **subordinate** because they are dependent clauses and not independent. The subordinate adverbial clause is dependent because it cannot stand on its own and make sense by itself without reference to the independent clause. The subordinate clause is *subordinate* because it is less than and subservient to the dominant independent clause in the same sentence.

All subordinate adverbial clauses are called **adverbial** because they explain *why, when, or how* the action of the main verb was/is/will be done. As such, **they are associated with the Main Verb of the independent clause in which they are the subordinate clause**. That is why they are described as *adverbial*.

A subordinate adverbial clause must begin with one of the conjunctions in the following chart.

7 AC	Subordinate Adverbial Conjunctions	
7.1 – 7.3	Cause one action predisposes another	<i>because, since¹, now that, so that,</i> (4)
7.4 – 7.10	Condition one action will predictably precede or follow another	<i>if, in case, whether, whenever, unless, until, once,²</i> (6)
7.11 – 7.14	Qualification one action will follow another even though the first action is not conducive or supportive of the second	<i>though, although, even though, whereas</i> (4)
7.15 – 7.21	Time one action will follow another or will simultaneously occur with another	<i>when, (even) as, before, after, while, (ever) since³, as soon as</i> (7)

Because (Subordinate) Adverbial Clauses are so essential and indispensable to all effective writing in English, students must be told to memorize the

¹ The word **as** can also be used as a subordinate adverbial conjunction of cause, meaning the same as *since*.

As you look tired, I won't ask you to help me wash the car.

As you have done a great job here, you will get a raise next month.

As you can see, there are many uses to this system.

As the storm has subsided, we can go sailing again.

As you are here, the meeting can begin.

But it is not included since it is not used as often as the others in the list.

² *As long as* may also be included in this list.

As long as the rains continue without excess, the maize harvest will be plentiful.

³ *Now that* has the same meaning as the temporal *since*.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunctions as **signifying markers**. What does this mean? It means that **as soon as you see one of these conjunctions and notice that it introduces a clause with a subject and verb, then you immediately know that you have a subordinate adverbial clause.**

The memory-aid acronym for the four main parts of the chart is **C-C-Q-T (see-see-quick-time)**. Students should memorize and immediately identify these 21 adverbial conjunctions as **signifying markers**. For use in these clauses, these signifying markers must be followed by a subject and verb which together form a complete clause.

There is a problem, though. A number of subordinate adverbial conjunctions – such as **before, after, since, while, unless, until, when** – are also used as **prepositions** followed by their objects. Moreover, it often happens that *one of the most confusing instances of this are one of these markers used as preposition followed by a gerund*. For example,

While waiting for the bus in the rain, he developed a cold.

The sentence can be converted to a subordinate adverbial clause by inserting the subject and changing the verbal to a verb:

While he waited for the bus in the rain, he developed a cold.

Other examples of these conjunctions used as prepositions are:

before leaving; after meeting Jill; after Saturday; since Tuesday; since learning about...; unless notified;

Again, students must carefully check that they are writing these subordinate adverbial clauses with their required subjects and verbs, and not just writing prepositional phrases in place of them.

Checking Sentences that have Subordinate Adverbial Clauses

All Subordinate Adverbial Clauses can be placed at the beginning, middle, or end of the sentence without loss of the meaning of the sentence. To instill this fact into students' minds, ask them to change the placement of their adverbial clause.

If it's at the beginning, tell them to move it to the two other places (middle, end).

If it's at the middle, tell them to move it to the two other places (beginning, end).

If it's at the end, tell them to move it to the two other places (beginning, middle).

Punctuation before and after the Subordinate Adverbial Clause

Remember that the punctuation changes according to the placement of the adverbial clause.

If the adverbial clause is at the beginning of the sentence, it is set off by a single comma after the adverbial clause and is followed by the independent main clause. One can omit the comma if the opening adverbial clause is very short, and even professional writers frequently will do this, but students should know it is always safer and better to **use the comma after the adverbial clause when it begins the sentence.**

ex. *When Friday comes, we will go to the market.*

If the adverbial clause is in the middle of the sentence, the subordinate adverbial clause is set off by two commas or two dashes.

ex. *We will go, when Friday comes, to the market.*

If the adverbial clause is at the end of the sentence, **the adverbial clause at the end of the sentence is *not* preceded by a comma.**

ex. *We will go to the market when Friday comes.*

Exception: **If the first clause or the second clause or both of them are long, then a comma can be put in front of the second clause.**⁴ It may be difficult to know when or when not to use the exception rule. In such cases, you are better off and never wrong to omit the comma before the adverbial clause at the end of a sentence.

Juggling Sentences in Front of the Class

When a student place their examples of subordinate adverbial clause forms on the board for public examination, the teacher should adopt the following procedure.

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- (1) If the student writes a sentence with an opening adverbial clause, then
 - (2) the teacher should ask: *Is there a comma after it?* If yes, the teacher says, *Good job.*
 - (3) Ask the student to now place the subordinate adverbial clause at the end of the sentence, making sure that the comma is omitted now.
 - (4) Students should now practice placing the same subordinate adverbial clause at the beginning or end (and sometimes in the middle) with the proper punctuation. They must realize that the punctuation varies according to the placement of the subordinate adverbial clause at the beginning, middle, or end of the sentence.
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Cause

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.1 :

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Cause – *because*

Footnote Code: AC-Ca-*because*

Note: The following examples exemplify the property of multiple placement options for adverbial clauses. Placing the subordinate clause at the beginning or end of the sentence results in no loss of meaning whatsoever. Thus, the student can learn to

⁴ See examples 7.10 #9, 7.11 #8, 7.12 #6,7 and 7.13 #5 –7.

achieve variety in their sentence construction by varying the placement of such clauses.

Examples:

- (1) **Because** she had an appointment, she left work right at 5:00.
- (2) **Because** I had a flat tire on the way, I arrived late for the job interview.
- (3) **Because** the snow has melted, the rivers run high.
- (4) **Because** the cheese has melted, I have to wait a bit for the burger to cool off before I can eat it.
- (5) **Because** he was broke, he could not sign up for the class
- (6) **Because** there were many different tribal languages, the Native Americans developed a sign language in order to facilitate communication without having to learn each different language.
- (7) **Because** they wanted to save money, the family decided that they would all help out and learn how to bake their own bread.
- (8) **Because** there was shattered glass everywhere from the bomb, everybody in the house had to put shoes on to come into the kitchen.
- (9) (8) She ran **because** the bus was starting to pull away from the curb.
- (10) I love snakes **because** they are smooth, sleek, and powerful.
- (11) He started to run **because** bees were chasing him.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.2 :

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Cause – *since*

Footnote Code: AC-Ca-*since, now that*

Examples:

- (1) **Since** I moved to Nairobi, I have felt second to none in terms of positive, enlightening experiences.
- (2) **Since** I have little money, I'll have to eat Kraft macaroni dinner.
- (3) **Since** it is late, I'll had better go home.
- (4) **Since** the job is filled, we are taking no more applications.
- (5) **Since** it snowed, all traffic slowed down to a crawl.
- (6) **Since** you insist, I had better write a sentence with *since* in it.
- (7) **Since** we did not want to live in an apartment, we decided to rent a house.
- (8) **Since** the plant died while we were away, my mother decided to buy a new one.
- (6) My legs really hurt **since** I ran six miles this weekend.
- (7) I'm really tired **since** I stayed up until 2 am. last night.
- (8) **Now that** he has become a parent, he has gotten much closer and friendlier to his own parents and parents-in-law.
- (9) **Now that** the monsoons are over, I can work on replacing the palmyra leaves of my roof.
- (10) **Now that** you have learned a few more of these forms, you should have no problem in composing interesting sentences of your own.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.3 :

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Cause – *so that*

Footnote Code: AC-Ca-so *that*

Note: Students may think that *in order to* fits in this category. *In order to* is not a subordinate adverbial conjunction. For example, a student may write:

In order to get rid of the cold, the woman sipped on hot tea with lemon and honey. Here, *in order to* is functioning like a preposition followed by a verbal infinitive. In the same way, *because of*, *owing to*, *on account of*, etc start prepositional phrases, and not subordinate adverbial clauses. The above sentence could be correctly rendered as:

The women sipped on hot tea with lemon and honey so that her cold would go away.

Examples:

- (1) So that I stay healthy, I eat plenty of green vegetables and drink plenty of water.
 - (2) You practice the guitar every day so that one day you can play in a top pop band and have your music hit the airwaves.
 - (3) You have to start saving early so that you can have a comfortable retirement.
 - (4) I run every day so that I can stay in shape.
 - (5) Mike Halfpenny, in London, watches TV with closed captioning, so that he can keep the sound off and listen to the unrelated music of his choice.
 - (6) You should work harder so that you can get into the engineering school of your choice.
 - (7) You first have to soak the nuts so that they become soft.
 - (8) The accomplice wore a wig in disguise so that no one would recognize her.
 - (9) Concrete has to cure so that the chemical reaction to achieve hardness is completed.
 - (10) They had completely cleared and redecorated the place so that I didn't recognize it as a once-former warehouse.
 - (11) The furniture had rounded edges so that children will not get hurt if they bump into it.
 - (12) The hunters shot and feathered the turkey so that it could be served with the Thanksgiving dinner.
 - (13) We placed all the clothes in the washing machine so that they could be cleaned.
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Condition

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.4:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition – *if, as if*

Note: *If* shows a necessary pre-condition. *As if* illustrates a condition which is not true but only pretends or appears to be true. *Should there be any...* is equivalent to *if there are any...* *Should* is sometimes used instead of *if*.

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*if, as if*

Examples:

if

- (1) **If the phone rings**, we should answer it.
- (2) **If you have some time on your way home**, can you please pick up a loaf of bread.
- (3) **If you're healthy**, you're wealthy. (Yiddish proverb)
- (4) **If you would not be cheated**, ask the price at three shops. (Chinese proverb)
- (5) **If you continue with your drinking habit**, you'll have to be admitted to AA.
- (6) **If the waves don't get smaller**, we'll have to cancel the surfing contest.
- (7) **If I remember correctly**, Jessie was supposed to take the garbage out this week.
- (8) **If those activities are uninteresting**, the Spring Festival can be spent more quietly in various local libraries, which will operate as usual during the holiday.
- (9) **If haste is the accelerator pedal**, multi-tasking is overdrive.
- (10) **If you buy it on the installment plan**, you'll end up paying a bit more.
- (11) Don't give the child dessert **if she refuses to eat dinner**.
- (12) She knew there would be consequences **if she did not go**.
- (13) Stay away from the water **if you can't swim**.
- (14) You'll have to work late on that **if you want to finish your report on time**.

Variation - should

- (15) **Should any of you have any further questions about this**, please do not hesitate to call me with your query.
- (16) **Should there be any more serious incidents of this type**, the cries for change may grow louder.

as if

Note: This form is not transferable. It is always placed at the end of the independent clause of which it is part. In a rare display of variant usage, Annie Dillard shows that *as if* in the role of adverbial descriptor, instead of *almost*.⁵

- (1) She looked at me **as if she knew me**.
- (2) You treat me **as if I am a juvenile**.
- (3) The woman drove wildly, **as if she was in a hurry**.
- (4) You look at me **as if I am entirely new to this or any other part of the world**.
- (5) It looked **as if it might rain later**, so I took my umbrella.
- (6) "I want to walk around this aware baby in circles, **as if she were the silver star's hole in the cave floor, or the Kaaba stone in**

⁵ "The red newborn looks up and studies his surroundings, alert, seemingly pleased, and preternaturally calm, ***as if*** enchanted." (Annie Dillard in *For the Time Being*)

Mecca, the wellspring of mystery itself, the black mute stone that requires men to ask, Why is there something here, instead of nothing?" (Annie Dillard in *For the Time Being*)

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.6:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition – *in case*

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*in case*

Note: *In case* is also used as Preposition. It is used to indicate that an action that should be done now in anticipation of a possible future need.

Examples:

- (1) Insure your house **in case** there is a fire.
 - (2) Here is some extra money **in case** you need it.
 - (3) There is a flask of hot water and some tea bags **in case** you want to drink some green tea.
 - (4) Take the umbrella **in case** it rains.
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Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.6:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition - *whether*

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*whether*

Note: *Whether* is also used in Subordinate Noun Clauses.

Examples:

- (1) **Whether** you're there or not, the meeting will start at 7 pm.
 - (2) **Whether** you win or lose, it's all in how you play the game.
 - (3) **Whether** you like it or not, you will still have to correct and re-write the mistakes in your sentence forms homework.
 - (4) **Whether** you do much of your composition homework or not, you will still probably find that you will recall and use several of the Sentence Forms almost unconsciously whenever you write.
 - (5) It's not important **whether** you were born in the country or the city.
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Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.7:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition -*whenever*

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*whenever*

Examples:

- (1) **Whenever** you see me, just smile and try to remember the sweet moments we shared together.
- (2) **Whenever** it snows, I have to wear my boots.
- (3) **Whenever** the dog barks, the baby cries.
- (4) **Whenever** you're in town, give me a shout.
- (5) **Whenever** you park the car, lock the doors.
- (6) They study English **whenever** they can.
- (7) I feel happy **whenever** she is around.

- (8) “Paradigm shifts were said to occur **whenever** science made a major change in its view of the world.” (Michael Crichton in *Jurassic Park* p. 384)

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.8:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition - *unless*

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*unless*

Examples:

- (1) **Unless** you think about your old age and retirement, you could end up in the poor house.
- (2) **Unless** more students show up, we will have to cancel today’s class.
- (3) **Unless** there is greater equality, there will never be any peace.
- (4) **Unless** the economy improves, we will all have to be more frugal and patient.
- (5) **Unless** the weather clears up, the game will be cancelled.
- (6) **Unless** I really pour it on now, I won’t be able to win this race.
- (7) **Unless** you join the club, you won’t receive any freebies.
- (8) **Unless** the painting of unauthorized graffiti and urban scrawl stops or decreases in frequency, we will have to keep spending hundreds of thousands of dollars painting and blotting out the work of the young urban gangs who write such messages and designs as one of their only means of maintaining an identity and justifying their self-worth.
- (9) **Unless** we get more sales, we may slide into bankruptcy.
- (10) I won’t be able to go **unless** I can get some more money together.
- (11) “We’ll never know **unless** we grow.” [English pop group *Travis* in *Turn*]

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.9:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition - *until*

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*until*

Note: Do not be confused: *until* is also used as a preposition and it is also used in Subordinate Noun Clauses (see Form 8). You must always look to see if there is a subject and verb after it, which together form a subordinate adverbial clause. Sometimes in *till* or *til* is used instead of *until*.

Examples:

- (1) **Until** you both agree to put down you guns, there is no hope of peace.
- (2) **Until** you master these forms, you may get lost reading English sentences.
- (3) **Until** you’ve walked a mile in someone else’s shoes, you can never fully understand them or understand their problems.
- (4) **Until** war is eliminated, we will continue to waste billions of dollars collectively in trying to keep up-to-date with new defensive and

offensive military machines, and many countries can't really afford it.

- (5) Until I get in contact with the bank, I will not be able to withdraw any money.
- (6) I can't wait until I see you.
- (7) I'll wait at the track until you show up.
- (8) He will continue at the same job until he retires.
- (9) I'll stay until the job is finished properly and completely.
- (10) Hold her head back until her nosebleed stops.
- (11) I have to wait until my parents come home in order to get my allowance from them.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.10:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Condition - *once*

Footnote Code: AC-Co-*once*

Note: *Once* is also an adverb, as in *I once lived in Sydney*.

Examples:

- (1) Once you've seen how the system works, you can never forget it.
- (2) Once the girl ate, she felt better.
- (3) Once she got off work, she called her boyfriend.
- (4) Once you've finished sweeping the dance floor, mop and wax it.
- (5) Once you drink the herbal medicine, you will feel better.
- (6) Once you have a kid of your own, you'll probably appreciate your parents a lot more.
- (7) Once the lake freezes over, trucks drive over the ice as a short cut route to the towns in northern Manitoba.
- (8) Once he arrives, we can start.
- (9) Once the stain has dried on the wooden sofa, you can put the first top coat of lacquer on it.
- (10) I'll call you back once I've finished taking my shower.
- (11) I will start on the floors once I get finished scrubbing the walls.
- (12) Could you do my hair once you finish hers?
- (13) You can leave the classroom once you've finished, checked, signed, and handed in your paper.

Qualification

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.11:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Qualification - *though*

Footnote Code: AC-Q-*though*

Examples:

- (1) **Though** she was not tall, she could still play basketball well.
 - (2) **Though** my legs felt like rubber, I know I had to continue the trek across the Sorak Mountains.
 - (3) **Though** you might not believe it, women have a larger connection between the two sides of their brain than men have.
 - (4) **Though** I had been there before, I found my second visit to China much more interesting and enjoyable than the first.
 - (5) **Though** they had been fighting for more than twenty years, the people had no intention of abandoning hope of their own free sovereign state.
 - (6) **Though** some people think a university degree is necessary to become financially stable, there are still many people who have proven that the converse is true.
 - (7) **Though** she was only twelve, she had mastered the violin, and was starting to give concerts in Europe.
 - (8) **Though** he plays cards well, he can't play dominoes.
 - (9) She completed her homework assignment **though** she was extremely tired.
 - (10) She was willing to dance **though** she is not a very good dancer.
- Variation with long first or second clause and comma**
- (11) She hit Thomas again, **though** her mother told her to keep her hands to herself.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.12:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Qualification - *although*

Footnote Code: AC-Q -although

Examples:

AC-Q (qualification)

- (1) **Although** they lost the game, they were not too disappointed..
- (2) **Although** your parents tell you many times to do something, you sometimes ignore their advice.
- (3) **Although** Ron and Chrissy broke up as a campus couple, they still remain friends and meet every once in a while.
- (4) **Although** his work was not finished, he went home early.
- (5) **Although** the experience was good, the job did not pay enough.
- (6) **“...although** Hammond spoke confidently of seven billion dollars in annual revenues by 1993, his project was intensely speculative.” (Michael Crichton in *Jurassic Park* p. 60)
- (7) **Although** the man works as a carpenter, he is also an electrician.
- (8) Everybody sat on the edge of the stage **although** we could have sat at the tables.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.13:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Qualification – *even though*

Footnote Code: AC-Q-even though

Examples:

- (1) **Even though** it's raining, I'll go jogging this evening.
- (2) **Even though** it looks easy, snowboarding takes a while to master.
- (3) **Even though** the skater tilted off balance after one jump, she still took top marks in the figure skating competition.
- (4) **Even though** he couldn't swim, he still managed to get to shore after the raft tipped over.
- (5) **Even though** she grew up in a wealthy neighborhood, she still did not care much about getting a good-paying job.
- (6) He hated school **even though** he was an 'A' student.
- (7) I went to the meeting **even though** it was pouring rain.

Variation: even though preceded by a comma

Even though is often used with a comma in front of it, because there is a natural pause before it.

- (8) Jim went to the club, **even though** he had parental duties at home.
- (9) They say there will be a big storm this afternoon, **even though** it's sunny and clear right now.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.14:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Qualification - *whereas*

Footnote Code: AC-Q-*whereas*

Note: *Whereas* is often used in legal and formal recording of meeting proceedings. *While* can sometimes be used instead of *whereas* (see example #7 below). This is not the same as Form 7.18, the temporal *while*.

Examples:

- (1) **Whereas** most people get six to eight hours of sleep a night, there are some people who have to make do with four to five hours per night.
- (2) **Whereas** in the West people shake hands when introduced to each other, in Japan people bow.
- (3) **Whereas** they had lost the first two games, the Houston Hurricanes rallied and went on to win the next three games, thus claiming the Winston Cup for the first time ever.
- (4) **Whereas** the undersigned hereby maintain that the above recommendations bode well for Happyville, we have decided that all new members should plant trees before joining the community on a permanent basis.
- (5) He went to the prom **whereas** she did not.
- (6) That form was easy **whereas** this form is hard.

Variation: A *whereas* clause at the end of a sentence can also like *even though* have a comma before it to make marked emphasis.

Again, when in doubt, don't put the comma. Try to discern it by sound. Sound alone and the natural flow tells you whether to put the comma or not.

- (7) George went on to become a successful solo star, **whereas** Rob faded into stardom oblivion over a short time.
- (8) I learned to count in Chinese the first day, **whereas** my sister mastered the greetings.

Variation

- (9) “The Hawaiian language has only 13 consonants, while one language in the Caucasus mountains has 70 consonants.” (Steve Buist in a newspaper article *Language in the Beginning* which appeared in the 2001.10.24 edition of the *Hamilton Spectator*)

Time

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.15:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time - when

Footnote Code: AC-T *when*

Note: Sometimes the phrase *the first time* can be used to give the same meaning as *when*.

Examples:

- (1) Call me **when** you're finished.
- (2) **When** I leave class today, I have to get a shot.
- (3) **When** I get back to California, I am going to kiss the ground.
- (4) **When** it stops raining, the game will resume.
- (5) We will start the party **when** Dana arrives.
- (6) The briefing will take place on Tuesday **when** I return to work.
- (7) **When** she goes home, she will stop by and pick up the kids from the daycare center.
- (8) **When** you join our program and academy, you will be expected to do at least two hours of study and homework per night.
- (9) Who was at the wheel **when** the crash took place?
- (10) Johnny will come out **when** he finishes dinner.
- (11) **When** you finish the alterations, call me.

Variation

- (12) **The first time** I saw the beautiful plum blossoms of Wuhan, I was very impressed with their pruned drooping branches and fleeting small blossoms.
- (13) **The first time ever** I saw your face, I thought the sun rose in your eyes... (written by Ewan McColl in *The First Time Every I Saw Your Face*, sung separately by Roberta Flack and Gordon Lightfoot)

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.16:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time - as

Footnote Code: AC-T *as*

Note: Sometimes *like* is used colloquially with the same meaning as *as*. Check to make sure that it is followed by a subject and main verb. Do **not** confuse this use of *like* with the prepositional use of *like* used to make similes, as in *The diver soared like a bird*.

Examples:

as

- (1) **As** I was leaving, I remembered to bring the letter.
- (2) **As** it was getting late, I decided to head home and crash.
- (3) **As she stood in front of the cheering mob of fans**, she realized that her dream had come true.
- (4) **As the family slept**, the burglar picked the lock and stealthily entered the house.
- (5) **As you inhale and exhale slowly**, be sure to focus also on your spine and make sure that your back is straight and that your muscles are supple and relaxed.
- (6) The results of the survey are disappointing **as you predicted they would be**.

like

- (7) "I want to feel **like I felt before**." [UK pop group *Travis* in *Turn*]
- (8) **Like you said**, some sentences are hard to understand.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.17:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time - *before*

Footnote Code: AC-T *before*

Examples:

- (1) **Before you lock the door**, don't forget to turn on the security alarm.
- (2) **Before you jump to any conclusions**, I'd like to give you the full scoop on what happened – and that may take a while.
- (3) **Before you go to your piano lesson**, could you please feed the fish?
- (4) **Before you arrived**, we thoroughly cleaned the house.
- (5) **Before we went to class**, we had to memorize the Two Hands chart.
- (6) **Before you marry**, you should both take a course together to make sure you understand the magnitude and the many aspects of your commitment.
- (7) You should make a bag lunch **before you go**.
- (8) Wash your hands **before you eat**.
- (9) You have to learn to walk **before you can learn to run**.
- (10) Take off your shoes **before you come into the living room**.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.18:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time - *after*

Footnote Code: AC-T *after*

Examples:

- (1) **After she went home**, she cooked some spicy tuna and fermented cabbage soup.
- (2) **After I thought about it**, I knew that what she said was true: we weren't meant to be together.
- (3) **After we broke up**, I thought I was going to die.

- (4) **After** families celebrate Christmas and New Year, the parents are usually in debt.
- (5) Refreshments will be served **after** the ceremony is over.
- (6) **After** the decision had been made, Jim voiced his opinion.
- (7) **After** we have studied all the facts, we will make a recommendation.
- (8) **After** we saw *Lord of the Rings*, we went for a pizza.
- (9) **After** it got mild, the snowman melted.
- (10) I can meet you **after** I've done the housework.
- (11) **After** you take a bath, make sure to moisturize your skin to prevent dryness.
- (12) You can have lunch **after** you finish the quiz.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.19:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time - *while*

Footnote Code: AC-T *while*

Note: *While* as an adverbial conjunction denotes duration: ie. something is happening while something else is happening. Two events or actions are simultaneous.

Examples:

- (1) **While** you are waiting for the bus, you can also look at your study notes, and memorize some more vocabulary.
- (2) **While** the sun shone, the birds sang and chirped.
- (3) Can you pick up some bread **while** you are at the store?
- (4) You shouldn't talk on your cell phone **while** you are driving.
- (5) Students are not allowed to talk **while** the teacher is lecturing.
- (6) I washed the dishes **while** my sister cleaned the stove.
- (7) **While** their parents were gone, Jill and Jen had a party.
- (8) **While** the baby was asleep, her mother studied over the internet.
- (9) The dog waited in the car **while** I went to the video store.
- (10) The chicken was baking in the oven, **while** the rice was boiling in the pressure cooker.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.20:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time - *since*

Footnote Code: AC-T *since, ever since*

Note: This form is also in the AC-Cause group of adverbial conjunctions. When writing sentences in this category, (AC-Time), make sure that the sentence refers to an event in time, and not to an event that caused another event. Two variations include *ever since* and *now that*. Remember also that *since* can be used as a preposition.

Examples:

- (1) **Since** I moved to India, my life has been full of excitement and interesting people.
- (2) **Since** you started pestering me, I can't get my work done.
- (3) **Since** she has got her hair styled, she has become really outgoing.

- (4) I've been working part-time or full-time **since** I was 14 years old.
- (5) I feel better **since** I quit smoking.
- (6) They had to use public transportation **since** their car broke down.
- (7) My Mom has had short hair **ever since** I can remember.
- (8) They've been at war **ever since** the neighboring Xanadulians invaded in 2183.

Variation

- (9) **Ever since** they have moved to Jalalabad and the kids started going to the new school there, Rita and Ron have had a much easier job encouraging their kids to do well in school.
- (10) She's been feeling uneasy **ever since** the family dog died.

Variation

- (11) **Now that** you mention it, I think that security control is of vital importance.
- (12) **Now that** spring is here, we can all go for beautiful walks.

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction Form 7.21:

Subordinate Adverbial Conjunction of Time – as soon as

Footnote Code: AC-T-*as soon as*

Examples:

- (1) **As soon as** the plane was in the air, the passengers unfastened their seatbelts.
- (2) **As soon as** you get back from your trip, phone home.
- (3) **As soon as** you finish the test, write down the time and turn your paper over.
- (4) **As soon as** her swimming lesson was over, Stephanie changed into clothes and met her Dad who was waiting in front of the pool in the car.
- (5) **As soon as** the winds reach that speed, we call it a *typhoon*.
- (6) **As soon as** school was out, Skip found a summer job at the local car wash.
- (7) The problems started **as soon as** Nick started taking drugs and drinking on a regular basis.
- (8) They dispatched four cruisers to the area **as soon as** they got the distress phone call.
- (9) **As soon as** the noodles are cooked, rinse them in cold water and then stir in the vegetables and sauce.
- (10) **As soon as** you think you have got Life all figured out, something else happens and you're back to that overwhelming state of confusion and surprise and despair, thinking that nobody else has seen the troubles you've seen.



Figure 1: Ice sculpture in winter of 2001-2002 in Timmins, Ontario, Canada. Forms are fleeting, and so is Life sometimes.