

THE ADVERB CLAUSE

An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause used to modify a verb, adjective, or adverb in the main clause. Every adverb clause is introduced by a subordinating conjunction. An adverb clause tells *when, where, why, how, to what extent, or how much* about the word it modifies.

Adverb Clause Modifying Verbs

We **left** the bicycle *where we had found it*. (where)
When the rain began, we **were** six miles from home. (when)
I **could** hardly **hold** my head up *because I was so sleepy*. (why)

Adverb Clause Modifying Adjectives

Bob is **taller** *than any other boy I know*. (to what extent)
The public library is **bigger** *than it used to be*. (how much)

Adverb Clauses Modifying an Adverb

Ferguson ran **faster** *than the other track stars did*. (how much)

Identifying Adverb Clauses. Underline the adverb clause in each sentence. Circle the word it modifies.

Example: As we approached the intersection, we (saw) the Nelsons' car.

1. When I delivered the newspaper, I saw Mrs. Sampson at the window.
2. Because that clerk was so helpful, I praised her to the store manager.
3. You may play outside until it's dark.
4. Vince becomes nervous when he speaks in public.
5. Please visit us whenever you are in the Chicago area.
6. Nero fiddled while Rome burned.
7. You may have piano lessons if you will practice an hour a day.
8. If the jacket is too big for you, I can alter it.
9. Mother took a nap while Amy and I went bicycling.
10. Phone us when you arrive in town.
11. Take a walk until dinner is ready.
12. The movie was just beginning as we bought our tickets.
13. When we arrived in Seattle, we took a taxi to our hotel.
14. Since I'll be late for dinner, I will get a sandwich downtown.
15. Whenever you make a promise, you must keep it.
16. She can swim better than Bob can.
17. Although I'd never been in the Martins' house before, I felt at home there.
18. Since they left Cleveland, the Smiths have lived in three other cities.
19. When you listen to music on the radio, do you hum along with it?
20. You may have the job if you will work hard at it.

1. When I delivered the newspaper, I (saw) Mrs. Simpson at the window.
2. Because that clerk was so helpful, I (praised) her to the store manager.
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