SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

CEFR Level A2 — Elementary

English Language Worksheets | 4 Worksheets + Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Three Kinds of Subordinate Clause

Noun, adjective (relative) and adverb clauses.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Look and learn**

Every subordinate clause does the job of a noun, an adjective or an adverb. Study the table.

Type	What it does	Example
NOUN clause	acts like a noun (subject/object)	I know that she is right.
NOUN clause	acts like a noun	What you said surprised me.
RELATIVE clause	describes a noun (like an adjective)	The man who called is my boss.
RELATIVE clause	describes a noun	The book which I read was long.
ADVERB clause	says when, why, how, if	We left because it was late.
ADVERB clause	says when, why, how, if	When she arrived, we ate.

*Quick test: can you replace the clause with **'something'**? Then it is a **noun clause**. Does it describe a noun? Then it is a **relative clause**.*

PART B — **Which type?**

Write NOUN, RELATIVE or ADVERB for each underlined clause.

1. We stayed inside <u>because it was raining</u>. → _____
2. I don't know <u>where she lives</u>. → _____
3. The girl <u>who won the prize</u> is my cousin. → _____
4. <u>When the film ends</u>, we will go home. → _____
5. He said <u>that he was sorry</u>. → _____
6. This is the house <u>which my grandfather built</u>. → _____

Score: _____ / 6

Worksheet 2: Noun Clauses

Clauses that work like a noun: that, what, where, why, whether.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Look and learn**

Position	Example
object of a verb	I think that you are right.
subject of a sentence	What he said was strange.
after know / wonder / ask	I wonder why she left.
yes/no questions → if / whether	I don't know whether he is coming.

*Careful! In a noun clause the word order is **statement order**, not question order: I know where she lives. (NOT where does she live)*

how • that • what • whether • why • where

Complete each sentence with a word from the box. Use each word once.

1. I don't understand _____ this machine works.
2. Nobody knows _____ the keys are.
3. She asked me _____ I wanted tea or coffee.
4. _____ he told us was completely false.
5. I believe _____ you will pass the exam.
6. Can you explain _____ the shop is closed?

PART B — **Correct the word order**

Each noun clause uses question word order by mistake. Write it correctly.

1. “I don't know where does he live.”
   Correction: _____
2. “She asked me what was I doing.”
   Correction: _____
3. “Tell me why did you leave.”
   Correction: _____
4. “I wonder when will the train arrive.”
   Correction: _____

Score: _____ / 10

Worksheet 3: Reading

Read about a strange delivery and find the clauses.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A **Read and decide: true or false?**

> *Nobody knew who had sent the parcel. It arrived on a Tuesday, when the office was almost empty. The label, which was handwritten, gave no address. Sofia said that she would open it, because she was curious. Inside was a small wooden bird. What surprised everyone was the note underneath. It said only: 'Keep this until you understand why.' Sofia put the bird on her desk, where it still sits today.*

Write T (true) or F (false) next to each sentence.

1	Everyone knew who sent the parcel. _____
2	The label was handwritten. _____
3	Sofia opened the parcel because she was curious. _____
4	There was a note in the parcel. _____
5	Sofia threw the bird away. _____

PART B **Find one of each**

Find one NOUN clause, one RELATIVE clause and one ADVERB clause in the text.

Noun clause: _____

Relative clause: _____

Adverb clause: _____

Score: _____ / 11

Worksheet 4: Join & Write

Combine sentences and write a short story.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Join the sentences**

Join each pair with the word in brackets. Say what type of clause you made.

1. She was late. The bus broke down. *(because)*
   _____
   Type: _____

2. I met a woman. She speaks five languages. *(who)*
   _____
   Type: _____

3. Something is certain. He is lying. *(that)*
   _____
   Type: _____

4. The concert finished. Everyone went home. *(when)*
   _____
   Type: _____

5. I can't remember something. Where did I park? *(where)*
   _____
   Type: _____

PART B — **Write a short story**

Write a short story (40–50 words) about finding something strange. Use at least ONE noun clause, ONE relative clause and ONE adverb clause.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Word count: _____

Score: _____ / 11

ANSWER KEY & TEACHER NOTES

For teacher use only — A2 Level Worksheets

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Worksheet 1 – Part B (Which type?)

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
1–6	Clause type	**1 ADVERB, 2 NOUN, 3 RELATIVE, 4 ADVERB, 5 NOUN, 6 RELATIVE**

Worksheet 2 – Noun Clauses

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
A	Gaps 1–6 in order	**how, where, whether, What, that, why**
B1	where does he live	**I don't know where he lives. (statement word order)**
B2	what was I doing	**She asked me what I was doing.**
B3	why did you leave	**Tell me why you left.**
B4	when will the train arrive	**I wonder when the train will arrive.**

Worksheet 3 – Reading

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
A	True / False 1–5	**1 F, 2 T, 3 T, 4 T, 5 F**
B	Noun clause	**'who had sent the parcel', 'that she would open it', or 'What surprised everyone'**
B	Relative clause	**'which was handwritten' or 'where it still sits today'**
B	Adverb clause	**'when the office was almost empty' or 'because she was curious'**

Worksheet 4 – Join & Write

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
1	because	**She was late because the bus broke down. — ADVERB**
2	who	**I met a woman who speaks five languages. — RELATIVE**
3	that	**It is certain that he is lying. — NOUN**
4	when	**When the concert finished, everyone went home. — ADVERB**
5	where	**I can't remember where I parked. — NOUN**
B	Story (40–50 words)	**Up to 6 marks: 3 for one clause of each type used correctly, 3 for coherence, length and accuracy.**