

Complex sentence
Subordinate clauses – analysis

Handout

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Identify the main / matrix and the embedded / subordinate clause in the following sentences. Analyse the subordinate clauses from the structural, syntactic and semantic perspective.

1. When the train stopped, we set out for the next town, where we had planned to stay the night.
2. The armadillo thinks that peanuts are for elephants.
3. Colin asked if they could get a mortgage.
4. The man I saw get into the cab robbed the bank
5. I've never seen you eating asparagus.
6. The polar bear, which lives in the Arctic regions and whose physical constitution is wonderfully adapted to that frigid climate, sometimes reaches temperate latitudes.
7. I don't know where he went, and no one has seen him since this afternoon.
8. The Japanese diet is becoming more westernized, so their life expectancy will probably decrease in the future.
9. Holiday resorts which are very crowded are not very pleasant.
10. He called the security guard and he checked the room for items which have been stolen.
11. Jackie, who is a friend of mine, came to our house today but she did not tell me that she is going aboard next week.
12. You have finished your work which I assigned to you yesterday, so you may go home now.
13. The young man was considered a hero, for he was successful in arresting the murderer who had killed an old woman.
14. If you think you can do it, just go and do it but do not complain later that I didn't warn you.
15. This was not the car I liked but I had to buy it since I did not have enough money.
16. Among the many reasons which make me glad to have been born in England, one of the first is that I read Shakespeare in my mother tongue.
17. Those who look into the practical life will realize that fortune is usually on the side of the industrious, as the winds and waves are on the side of the best navigators.

18. I have no sympathy with the poor man I saw, who committed suicide yesterday as he confessed that he killed his wife, but I am sorry about his kid.

19. We had in this village a girl whom I remember, who from his childhood showed a strong liking for bees