

ADVERB CLAUSES

An adverb clause is a subordinate (dependent) clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb. It tells when, how, why, to what extent, or under what condition.

An adverb clause may either precede or follow the main clause (independent clause). When the adverb clause comes first, separate it from the main clause with a comma.

Before I took the test, I studied hard.

When the adverb clause follows the independent clause, **DO NOT USE A COMMA**.

I studied hard **before I took the test**. (The adverb clause modifies the verb STUDIED. It tells when.)

I was happy **because I passed the test**. (The adverb clause modifies the adjective HAPPY. It tells why.)

I can study better **if there is no noise**. (The adverb clause modifies the adverb BETTER. It tells under what conditions.)

AN ADVERB CLAUSE WILL ALWAYS

- A. BEGIN WITH A SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTION
- B. CONTAIN A SUBJECT FOLLOWED BY ITS VERB

Common subordinating conjunctions:

After, although, as, as far as, as if, as long as, as soon as, as though, because, before, considering that, if, inasmuch as, in order that, provided that, since, so long as, so that, than, though, unless, until, when, whenever, where, whereas, whenever, while