Adjective and Adverb Clauses B

An adjective clause is a subordinate clause that modifies a noun or a pronoun.

An adverb clause is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.

ADJECTIVE CLAUSE
Do you recognize the people who are in that photograph?

ADVERB CLAUSE
Before you answer, study their faces for a few minutes.

Exercise
For each of the following sentences, identify the underlined clause by writing above it ADJ for adjective clause or ADV for adverb clause. Circle the word or words that the underlined clause modifies.

Example
Although I shut the door tightly, the wind blew it open again.

1. Are these the videotapes that you wanted to borrow?
2. Please give that coat, which is too small for you, to your cousin.
3. Whenever I hear that song, I remember my last birthday party.
4. If we knew the telephone number, we could call the store for directions.
5. Laura, whom we saw at the movies last night, lives next door to our teacher.
6. My little brother, who is only three years old, knows the words to a lot of songs.
7. Before we got out of bed, my father had already cleared the snow off the sidewalk.
8. When I am older, I would like to travel in South America.
9. Although she didn’t mean to be unkind, her words hurt Camilla’s feelings.
10. Those documents, which had been missing for more than twenty years, were discovered in a kitchen drawer.
11. Until we learned how to use the compass, we wandered around the woods for hours.
12. That story is about a giant whose favorite food is Limburger cheese.
13. My young cousins laugh whenever I read the story to them.
14. People who like to fish must have a lot of patience.
15. Please address the envelopes before you leave this afternoon.
16. We brought this puppy to you because we know how much you like animals.
17. The mail carrier who delivers the mail to our house is always in a good mood.
18. The boys crouched behind the fence until they heard the car drive away.
19. My garden includes some flowers that bloom all year long.
20. The rug, which was woven by hand, once belonged to my grandmother.
Review A: Clauses

**Exercise A** For each of the following sentences, identify the underlined clause by writing above it IND for independent clause or SUB for subordinate clause.

**Example 1.** Although I don’t like Brussels sprouts, I politely ate them.

1. The student who owns the wallet may claim it at the school office.
2. This weekend we will wash the car, which badly needs a good scrub.
3. The plant has small orange flowers that open every morning.
4. As soon as I finish my report, let’s go to the movies.
5. Although she had never taken piano lessons, she could play very well.
6. Do you know the name of the boy whom we saw on the train?
7. We stopped for a picnic, which was very pleasant.
8. Please accept this gift that I made for you.
9. We practiced our roles in the play until we were sure of our lines.
10. I wonder where we should put the new plant we just bought.

**Exercise B** For each of the following sentences, underline the adjective clause and circle the relative pronoun. Then, draw an arrow from the clause to the noun or pronoun it modifies.

**Example 1.** Several friends who enjoy music are attending a concert with me.

11. The concert that we’ll hear tonight includes music by George Gershwin.
12. George Gershwin, who was a great American composer, wrote *Porgy and Bess*.
13. This opera, which is set in South Carolina, features jazz rhythms.
14. “Summertime,” which is a beautiful song, is a highlight of the show.
15. Gershwin did not write the lyrics that went with his songs.
16. The lyricist whom Gershwin most preferred was his brother, Ira.
17. George wrote the music, but it was Ira who wrote the words.
18. The Gershwin concert piece that I like the best is *An American in Paris*.
19. Gene Kelly stars in the movie that is based on this composition.
20. Kelly, who sings and dances to Gershwin music in the film, is superb.
**Review B: Clauses**

**EXERCISE A** Underline the adverb clause and circle the subordinating conjunction in each of the following sentences. Above the clause, write whether the clause tells how, when, where, why, how much, how long, or under what condition.

**Example 1.** Before the parade, I polished my trumpet until it shone.

1. Because I am in the high school band, I will march in the parade.
2. The parade will begin after all the bands and floats are in position.
3. Our band is larger than the band from Zavala Junior High School is.
4. Since we are larger, we will play “The Star-Spangled Banner.”
5. The parade will officially begin as soon as we finish the anthem.
6. After the parade, meet me where the band’s buses are parked.
7. If it is raining, meet me in the lobby of city hall.
8. The sky filled up with storm clouds as if it might rain.
9. Wherever I go, the weather seems to work against me!
10. As soon as I start to play my horn, the weather becomes a music critic.

**EXERCISE B** Underline the subordinate clause in each sentence. Then, identify the clause by writing above it **ADJ** for adjective clause or **ADV** for adverb clause.

**Example 1.** The performer whom I researched is Will Smith.

11. Will Smith, who has acted in films and television, has also made musical albums.
12. One of Smith’s songs, a rap solo performance that he made in 1998, won a Grammy.
13. Before he won this Grammy, he had costarred in a movie.
14. An actor with whom Smith has costarred is Tommy Lee Jones.
15. Before he started performing solo, Smith had been part of the duo called DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince.
16. After he and his partner won the first Grammy award for a rap performance, Smith starred in a popular television show.
17. If you have never seen a Will Smith performance, you have missed some fun.
18. Some of the movies that Smith has made are action-adventure films.
19. One film starring Smith was number one the year that it opened.
20. Smith’s nickname was Prince Charming until he changed it to Fresh Prince.
**Review C: Clauses**

**Exercise A** For each of the following sentences, identify the underlined clause by writing above it **IND** for independent clause or **SUB** for subordinate clause.

**Example 1.** After I found the lost dog, I put up posters to find her owner.

1. The research report that was assigned last month is due tomorrow.
2. Since the bicycle was on sale, I bought it.
3. I voted for the candidate who lost the election.
4. I’ll let you know as soon as your package arrives.
5. Did you read the book before you saw the movie?
6. The flag should be brought indoors when the weather is bad.
7. After the final performance of the play, the cast had a party.
8. William Shakespeare is the best-known playwright in the world today.
9. You may borrow my book overnight if you’d like.
10. Please help me when it is time to decorate the gym for the dance.

**Exercise B** For each of the following sentences, underline the adjective clause or adverb clause. Then, circle the relative pronoun or subordinating conjunction.

**Example 1.** Juanita, who is my cousin, organized a fantastic party.

11. What costume did you wear to the party that Juanita had?
12. My costume, a chicken suit, won a prize because it was very well-made.
13. My cousin, whom I took to the party, went as a huge mosquito.
14. Since the guests were in costume, I couldn’t recognize many of the people there.
15. Did you recognize Hilary when you saw her in the gorilla costume?
16. The person whom I didn’t recognize was Mingan.
17. His costume, which was quite original, was a large cardboard box.
18. The box, which was painted white and covered with clear plastic, was very shiny.
19. Mingan, who was hidden inside the box, kept saying, “I’m melting!”
20. As soon as I saw him, I got it—he was supposed to be an ice cube!
Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics: Language Skills Practice

Literary Model: Description

I can still remember the smell of the first girl I ever fell in love with when I was twelve. . . . Because I wanted to make a wondrous impression on this girl, grooming was suddenly important to me. Before puberty, happiness in appearance for me was pants that didn’t fall down and a football that stayed pumped; but now I started taking three long baths a day and washing my own belt until it was white and shining my shoes until I could see in them a face that was ready for romance.

—from “The Only Girl in the World for Me” by Bill Cosby

**EXERCISE A** Underline the four adjective clauses and four adverb clauses that appear in this passage. 
[Hint: One of the adjective clauses is part of an adverb clause.]

**EXERCISE B**

1. Rewrite the passage so that it no longer includes any adjective or adverb clauses.

2. Without the subordinate clauses, does the paragraph sound different? How?