EMPOWER GRAMMATICAL BACKGROUND

CLAUSES

Clauses

A clause contains the basic units of a subject
 (S) and a main verb (V).

e.g. The sun shines.

<u>He wrote</u> me a letter.

SV

Two Types of Clauses

There are two main types of clause structures:

independent clauses

and

dependent clauses.

Independent Clauses

a clause (subject + verb)

- can stand alone
- expresses a complete thought
- is also a sentence.

e.g. They got married last year.

I wrote a letter to him.

Dependent Clause

- has a subject + verb
- does NOT express a complete thought
- CANNOT stand alone as a sentence
- starts with SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

After **Unless** Which How Although Until While If Since When As Who As if So that Whenever Whom As though Than whose Where Because That Wherever Whether Before Though

e.g. When you are free, please contact me.

If you want to come, you can come.

Because he was ill, he couldn't come to class.

Joining Clauses

- Clauses can be joined with:
 - 1. Coordinating conjunctions (join two independent clauses)
 - AKA "FANBOYS" for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so
 - 2. <u>Subordinating conjunctions</u> (join dependent clause to independent clause)
 - if, since, because, with, when, whether, while
 - 3. Relative Pronouns
 - who, whose, whom, which, that

Coordinating Conjunctions

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I like ice cream, for it is delicious.
        = because
   nd = more information / like ice cream, and Judy likes cookies.
                               Neither ice cream nor cookies are good for
N or = two negative options
                               your health.
B ut
                        I like ice cream, but I don't like cake.
       = contrast
                       I could eat ice cream, or I could eat carrots.
       = alternative
Y et
                     I could carrots, yet I wouldn't feel happy.
       = contrast
       =result/consequence / will eat ice cream, so / can feel happy.
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subordinating conjunction

- I'll leave for the party as soon as the meeting ends.
- When the rain stops, we'll go out.
- You'll feel better after you've had some rest.
- Because it was raining heavily, I couldn't go home.
- I have too much work to do, so I can't go to the party tonight.
- Although/Though/Even though it was raining, I went running.

Relative Pronouns: who, whose, whom, which, that

- WHO OR WHOM?
- WHO used as the subject of a clause
- WHOM used as an object
 - Direct object
 - Indirect objects
 - Object of a preposition
- Example:

The cat is white. It is climbing the tree.

The cat, which is white, is climbing the tree.

Joining Clauses:

Dependent Clause (with subordinating conjunction)

- + TWO Independent Clauses (with coordinating conjunction)
- + Relative Clause (with relative pronoun)
- While she was taking notes, she relaxed, and some ideas popped up in her brain, which indicated the understanding of the new concepts.