

## SUBORDINATE CLAUSES – ORACIONES SUBORDINADAS

Las oraciones subordinadas adverbiales que vamos a abordar en este tema son las siguientes:

1. Time clauses = temporales
2. Clauses of concession or contrast = concesivas
3. Clauses of reason and result = causales y consecutivas
4. Clauses of purpose = finalidad

En cada uno de ellos veremos los nexos (conectores) que las introducen y el uso de los mismos.

### TIME CLAUSES

Los nexos más usuales que introducen este tipo de oraciones son los siguientes. Fíjate bien en la correspondencia de tiempos que se establece en los ejemplos:

<b>When / as</b> = cuando	- <u>As</u> I was walking down the street, I saw my ex-boyfriend. - I'll phone you <u>when</u> I know the answer
---------------------------	---

<b>While</b> = mientras (que)	- <u>While</u> I was watching TV, the telephone rang.
-------------------------------	---

<b>As soon as</b> = tan pronto como	- I'll phone you <u>as soon as</u> I know the answer. - <u>As soon as</u> he had finished studying, he left.
-------------------------------------	---

<b>Before / after</b> = antes de (que) / después de (que)	- The train had left <u>before</u> they got to the station - She went to the gym <u>after</u> she had done her homework.
--	---

<b>Until</b> = hasta (que)	- We were waiting <u>until</u> she arrived
----------------------------	--

**Nota:** Las oraciones temporales siguen la regla de la secuencia de tiempos. Esta consiste en que cuando el verbo de la oración principal está en presente o futuro, el verbo de la subordinada está en presente (caso de los ejemplos de *when, as* o *as soon as*). Cuando el verbo de la oración principal está en pasado, el verbo de la subordinada también está en alguna de las formas de pasado.

### CONTRAST

Los nexos que introducen este tipo de oraciones concesivas son los siguientes.

- a) **Although / even though / though** = aunque  
**In spite of / Despite** = a pesar de

La diferencia entre ambos nexos es que los primeros van seguidos de una oración (con sujeto y verbo) y los segundos van seguidos de nombre o un verbo sustantivado (en *-ing*).

**ALTHOUGH / EVEN THOUGH / THOUGH + CLAUSE**  
Although he didn't have money, he bought the most expensive car.

**IN SPITE OF / DESPITE + NOUN / -ING FORM**  
In spite of not having money, he bought the most expensive car.  
Despite the rain, we went out for a walk.

**Nota:** Podemos también usar **in spite of the fact / despite the fact (that) + clause u oración** = a pesar del hecho de que: In spite of the fact that it was raining, we went out for a walk.

b) Se puede expresar un contraste entre dos ideas mediante los nexos

<b>While y whereas</b> = mientras que	- He is lively and easygoing <u>whereas</u> his sister is rather shy.
---------------------------------------	---

<b>But</b> = pero	
-------------------	--

<b>However, nevertheless, yet</b> = no obstante, sin embargo, aún así, de todos modos	- She didn't want to have more children. <u>However</u> , she might change her mind. - Joshua felt ill, <u>yet</u> he went to work.
---	--

**Nota:** Tanto *however* como *nevertheless* suelen ir detrás de pausa fuerte (punto o punto y coma) y seguidos de coma (ver ejemplo).

## CLAUSES OF REASON AND RESULT

a) **Clauses of reason** = podemos expresar la causa mediante los siguientes nexos:

<b>Because</b> = porque
<b>Because of</b> = por, debido a

La diferencia entre ambos nexos es que el primero va seguido de una oración (con sujeto y verbo) y el segundo va seguido de nombre.

<b>BECAUSE + CLAUSE</b> We moved to another city <u>because</u> my father got a new job.
<b>BECAUSE OF + NOUN</b> We moved to another city <u>because of</u> my father's new job.

<b>As /since</b> = como, puesto que. Normalmente van al principio de la frase	- <u>As</u> it is your birthday, I'll lend you my best clothes.
Otros nexos causales: <b>due to, owing to</b> = debido a	

**b) Clauses of result:** podemos expresar la consecuencia mediante los siguientes nexos:

<b>So</b> = así que	- She was ill <u>so</u> she couldn't take the exam.
<b>As a result / therefore</b> = por tanto, como consecuencia	Fíjate en los ejemplos: - I failed my English test <u>and therefore</u> I took it again in September. - I failed my English test. <u>Therefore</u> , I took it again in September.

Especial atención debemos prestar a la expresión de la consecuencia con **so / such...that** = tan.....que

<p><b>SO + ADJECTIVE / ADVERB + THAT</b></p> <p>The ticket for the concert was <u>so expensive (that)</u> we couldn't buy it.</p> <p><b>SUCH + (ADJECTIVE) + NOUN THAT</b></p> <p>It is <u>such a big city (that)</u> I always get lost.</p>
--

**Nota:** 1. En este segundo caso, si el nombre es incontable o plural, no se pondría el artículo indefinido *a* : It was such nice weather that we decided to go on a picnic.  
2. En ambos casos, *that* se puede omitir.

### CLAUSES OF PURPOSE

Con este tipo de oraciones expresamos la finalidad, el por qué alguien hace algo. La traducción de todos los nexos va a ser siempre '**para**'. Los nexos y sus usos son:

<b>To + infinitivo</b>	- I went to the university <u>to</u> talk to one of my teachers.
<b>In order to / so as to</b>	- I went to the university <u>in order to</u> talk to one of my teachers. (more formal)

**Nota:** 1. En frases negativas, se emplea generalmente **in order not to /so as not to** (no **not to** sólo): - I hurried so as not to miss the bus.  
2. Este tipo de nexo sólo se usa cuando el sujeto del verbo y el del infinitivo es el mismo.

<b>So that</b>	+ <b>can(n't) / will (won't)</b> → para referirnos al presente o futuro
	+ <b>would(n't) / could(n't)</b> → para referirnos al pasado

**EJEMPLOS:**

- I'll buy a ball so that we can play football. = Compraré un balón para que podamos jugar al fútbol.
- Get a map with you so that you won't get lost. = Coge un mapa para no perderte.
- I bought a ball so that we could play football = Compré un balón para que pudiésemos jugar al fútbol.
- We got a map with us so that we wouldn't get lost = Cogimos un mapa para no perdernos.

<b>For + noun / -ing form</b>	- A knife is used <u>for cutting</u>
-------------------------------	--------------------------------------

**IN CASE**

In case significa **por si acaso**

<b>In case</b>	+ <b>present</b> → para referirse al presente
	+ <b>past</b> → para referirse al pasado

**EJEMPLOS:**

- I will take an umbrella in case it rains.
- We bought an extra ticket in case Martin wanted to join us.

**Nota:** Compara **in case** e **if**:

- We will buy an extra ticket in case Martin wants to join us (lo compramos antes por si Martin luego decide venir).
- We will buy an extra ticket if Martin wants to join us (esperamos a que Martin nos diga que va a venir y luego compramos la entrada).

## EXERCISES

### TIME CLAUSES

#### 1. Choose the correct answer.

- I'm not going out now. I'll wait *until/when* it stops raining.
- While/When* I had watched the latest film, I went to bed.
- She slipped on the ice *while/until* she was skating.
- We stayed with our friend *when/until* the last train arrived before/until we left.
- My mother looked after my grandfather *until /when* he died.
- I usually have a nap *before/while* I have lunch.
- It started to snow *until/just as* they got to the cottage.
- I hurt my ankle *as soon as/when* I was playing tennis.
- The wedding had already finished *when/just as* the best man showed up.

### CONTRAST

#### 2. Rewrite the sentences beginning with the words given in brackets.

Example:     - *She has plenty of money, but she is very mean (although)*  
                  - *Although she has plenty of money, she is very mean.*

- They have a lot of money, but they rarely go on holiday (though).
- He was a good person, but he had very bad luck in his life. (although).
- He has a sister living nearby, but he never visits her. (even though).
- He never studies, but he gets the best marks in class. (even though).

#### 3. Rephrase the sentences using the words in brackets and a noun or -ing form.

Example:     - *They went out, even though the weather was not nice (despite)*  
                  - *They went out despite the bad weather.*

- She could get away with the punishment, even though she didn't do what she was told. (in spite of)
- There were no flight delays, even though the weather was bad. (despite)
- She managed to get to work on time, even though the traffic was terrible. (in spite of)
- Many people go out at weekends, even though the unemployment rate is very high. (despite)
- He kept on reading, even though he had sore eyes. (despite the fact that)
- I didn't buy that dress, even though I had the money. (in spite of)
- I went to work as usual, even though I had a temperature (despite)
- People continue to eat fast food, even though they know it is unhealthy. (in spite of the fact that)

#### 4. Join the sentences using *while/whereas*

Example:     - *John is hard-working*                             *Nigel is lazy*  
                  - *John is hard-working while/whereas Nigel is lazy.*

- a. This house is big and comfortable
- b. I prefer classical music
- c. My husband prefers staying at home
- d. I prefer to wear jeans at weekends
- e. My son is lively

My daughter is rather serious  
 My boyfriend likes rock  
 On weekdays I wear smart clothes  
 The one I live in is rather small  
 I love going out

### REASON AND RESULT CLAUSES

**5. Complete the sentences in the first column using *because* or *because of* + an idea from the second column.**

Example:     - *We didn't arrive in time*                    *the heavy traffic*  
                   - *We didn't arrive in time because of the heavy traffic.*

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| a. I made an emergency call                | I found a dead man in the street    |
| b. The family had to flee from the country | the weather was changing            |
| c. The match was cancelled                 | the rain                            |
| d. I'm doing this course                   | I want to get better qualifications |
| e. He took a raincoat                      | she is afraid of planes             |
| f. She can't travel by air                 | the war                             |

### 6. Choose the correct answer.

- a. *As/As a result* it was such a difficult exam, we decided not to take it.
- b. It is my mother's birthday *because/so* we'll buy her a TV.
- c. *As a result/Since* all the restaurants in the town were busy, we went back home.
- d. My husband was ill *and as a result/because* we didn't attend the meeting.
- e. I didn't get paid in my job *and so/as* I can't spend much money this weekend.
- f. I couldn't take the children to school *as a result/because* we were locked in the house.
- g. Ellen was gorgeous; *so/therefore* she won the beauty contest.

### 7. Join the sentences using *so/such... (that)*.

Example:- *He is very intelligent. He doesn't need to study* → *He is so intelligent that he doesn't need to study.*

- *Jennifer is a famous actress. Everybody asks her for an autograph* → *Jennifer is such a famous actress that everybody asks her for an autograph.*

- a. The Oscar Award is a world-known event. No famous people miss it.
- b. My grandfather was very weak. He hardly could stand.
- c. That village is very small. There are no more than two families living.
- d. Gasol is very tall. He needs a king-size bed.
- e. We are having a good time this weekend. We will never forget it.

### PURPOSE CLAUSES

**8. Answer these questions using *to* or *for*.**

Example:     - *Why do you go to the disco?* → *I go to the disco to dance.*

- a. Why do you go to work every day?
- b. Why have you decided to get married?

- c. Why do you go to a gym?
- d. Why have the government decided to raise taxes?
- e. Why do you need money?

**9. Join the sentences using the connectors in brackets.**

Example: - *I made vocabulary notebooks. I wanted to learn many words. (so as to)*  
 - *I made vocabulary notebooks so as to learn many words.*

- a. I usually write down the teacher's notes. I don't want to forget them. (so as not to)
- b. I've started to go out more often. I want to make friends. (in order to)
- c. The minister has resigned. He says he needs to have a rest. (in order to)
- d. I took some money with me. I had to pay for the meal (so as to)
- e. The students bought the books. Now they can study. (in order to)

**10. Join the sentences using *so that* and the words in brackets.**

Example: - *I don't stay late at night. I want to get up early in the morning. (can)*  
 - *I don't stay late at night so that I can get up early in the morning.*

- a. I went to the chemist's. I had to take my medicine. (could)
- b. My daughter wears glasses. She has better sight. (will)
- c. I didn't make any noise. I didn't want to wake the baby up. (wouldn't)
- d. The teacher repeated everything. She wanted us to learn it. (would)
- e. My friend is saving money. She wants to live on her own. (can)

**IN CASE**

**11. Join the sentences using the information in both columns and in case.**

Example: - *Buy a car*                      *you need it for work*  
 - *Buy a car in case you need it for work.*

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| a. You'd better buy a new dress           | you get sunstroke            |
| b. Have something to eat                  | you go to the party          |
| c. Wear a hat to protect you from the sun | you are still at home        |
| d. I'll give you a ring                   | it is cold                   |
| e. Take a coat with you                   | you don't have a proper meal |

**12. Complete the sentences with *if* or *in case*.**

- a. Write down my telephone number \_\_\_\_\_ you forget it.
- b. Don't worry! I'll go on foot \_\_\_\_\_ you have your car serviced.
- c. Take an aspirin \_\_\_\_\_ you don't feel well.
- d. Call 112 \_\_\_\_\_ you are in an emergency.
- e. She'll visit her grandparents \_\_\_\_\_ she has time.
- f. I won't hang the clothes out \_\_\_\_\_ it rains.

