

## **Complex structures**

## Adverb clauses

Adverb clauses are dependent clauses which work as adverbs. They can show a number of different relationships between the clauses in the sentence. They begin with a subordinator which is the word which signifies the relationship. For example:

Type of relationship	Subordinators	Example
Contrast	while, even though, although, whereas	<b>Even though</b> he injured his arm, he played at the match.
Time	when, before, after, while, as	I managed to arrive home <b>before</b> it started to rain.
Reason	because, as	I don't want to go to the movies <b>because</b> I feel really tired.
Conditional	if, as long as, unless	<b>As long as</b> you finish your homework, you can go to the park.

Hypothetical questions are common in Part 3 of the test. For this, you can use one of the following conditional structures using the subordinator **if**.

Type of conditional	Structure	Example
Zero	S + V (present simple) + <b>if</b> + S (present simple) + V	If it rains, tennis lessons are cancelled.
First	S + V (future simple) + <b>if</b> + S (present simple) + V	I will visit my parents after work <b>if</b> I have time.
Second	S + (would) V + <b>if</b> + S (past simple) + V	I would buy a car <b>if</b> I had enough money.
Third	S + (would have) V (past participle) + <b>if</b> + S (past perfect) + V	If I hadn't been unwell, I would have gone to the beach.

## **Noun clauses**

Noun clauses are dependent clauses which function as nouns. Like nouns, they can be subjects or objects in sentences. Common noun clauses are as follows:

Subordinator	Example	
That	I know <b>that</b> some sportsmen and sportswomen make a lot of money.	
When	I do not know <b>when</b> the university term starts.	
How	I am not sure <b>how</b> university education will change in the future.	
Where	I don't know where the test will take place.	

## **Adjective clauses**

Adjective clauses are dependent clauses which function as adjectives and provide extra information about a noun. Examples:

Type of noun described	Subordinator	Example
Person	who/that	The person <b>who</b> I talked to on the phone did not really understand my question.
Thing	which/that	I don't understand the technology <b>which</b> is used in the courses.
Place	where	The company <b>where</b> I work employs more than one hundred people.
Reason	why	The reason <b>why</b> I am taking the IELTS test is because I want to go to university.