

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:

When / as = 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
While = mientras (que)	- <u>While</u> I was watching TV, the telephone rang.
As soon as = 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.
Before / after = 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.
Until = 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

While y whereas = mientras que	- He is lively and easygoing <u>whereas</u> his sister is rather shy.
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But = pero	
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However, nevertheless, yet = 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.
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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:

Because = porque
Because of = 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.

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

As /since = 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: due to, owing to = debido a	

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

So = así que	- She was ill <u>so</u> she couldn't take the exam.
As a result / therefore = 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>SO + ADJECTIVE / ADVERB + THAT</p> <p>The ticket for the concert was <u>so expensive (that)</u> we couldn't buy it.</p> <p>SUCH + (ADJECTIVE) + NOUN THAT</p> <p>It is <u>such a big city (that)</u> I always get lost.</p>
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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:

To + infinitivo	- I went to the university <u>to</u> talk to one of my teachers.
In order to / so as to	- 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.

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

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

In case significa **por si acaso**

In case	+ present → para referirse al presente
	+ past → 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.*

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| 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.*

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|---|------------------------------|
| 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.

