

Lesson 25: Completer Clauses

Review:

- A **clause** is a group of words that has a subject, a predicate, and a _____ word.
- A **shifter clause** (adverb clause) gives information about time, reason, condition, or the opposite of _____. **Shifter clauses** can go in _____ of the trunk, or at the end of the trunk.
- A **describer clause** (adjective clause) gives more information about one word in the trunk. **Describer clauses** go right _____ the word that they are describing.

In this lesson, let's look at a third kind of clause, the **completer clause**. I call this kind of clause a **completer clause** because it always comes at the end of the trunk, and its purpose is to complete the idea of the trunk. That's pretty easy to remember. A **completer clause** completes.

Some books call **completer clauses** "noun clauses"

Let's look at some of these **completer clauses**. Notice where they are in the sentence and notice the job that they do.

Example 1: **I think** that you should study harder

Example 2: **I believe** that it is time to go

You can see that **completer clauses** are actually like a big OBJECT because they answer the question "What?"

What do I think? You should study harder.

I think that you should study harder.

Look at the verbs in the different examples above. Have you noticed that the **completer clauses** usually come after verbs of reporting or thinking?

Common **verbs** for **that** completer clauses:

say	believe	feel	realize	know
think	suggest	argue	hope	find



THAT CLAUSES

Example: CW

He said	that he was sorry.
He said	he was sorry

Example: CW

I think	that I'll stay home tonight.
I think	I'll stay home tonight

★ *That* is the most common clause word in completer clauses.
★ *That* can be used for both people and things.
★ *That* is often omitted

Leaving out "that"

All four sentences are correct. In the second sentence of each example, the word **that** has been omitted.

Remember that when we omit the word **that**, it *looks like* we have **two trunks**. But if we want two trunks together we must join them with a *comma* plus a word like *and*, *but*, *so*, *or*. This is not the case here. So we must remember that the clause word has been omitted.

OTHER COMPLETER CLAUSE WORDS: WHY, WHAT, WHERE, IF

Common verbs followed by **why**, **what**, **where**, and **if** completer clauses
know see tell ask wonder

Word order: Some words in English lead double lives. *why*, *what*, and *where* are used to ask questions AND they are used to introduce clauses. Don't forget that the word order is different.

In questions→ ?W X S
Why is **Jack** late?

In clauses→ CW S X
I don't know why **Jack** is late. ~~I don't know why is Jack late.~~

Examples with **why**, **what**, and **where** as clause words:

- I don't know why Jack is late.
- Do you know what the problem is?
- Excuse me. Do you know where the cafeteria is?

IF in **shifter clauses** and **completer clauses**

The word "if" is used in different ways, too. You probably know it as a **Shifter Clause** word.

In a **shifter clause** "if" introduces a condition.



In a **completer clause** "if" means "whether" and introduces a possibility.



Lesson 25 Exercise 1

- 1) Read these sentences carefully. 2) Put brackets around the Completer Clause
- 3) Mark all of the words in the sentence. 4) Write "What?" over the completer clause. The completer clause includes the Where? and When? phrases.

-----What?-----
 ☆ VxD CW ☆ X Ving pr Dt ☆
 Sarah said [that she is coming to the party.]

1. Donald thinks that the world is flat!
2. My mother knows that I try hard in school.
3. I believe that learning English will open doors.
4. My friend asked why I was late for class.
5. I wonder when the meeting will finish.
6. Do you know where the office is?
7. The little girl wondered if Santa Clause would bring her something.

Lesson 24 Exercise 2 Questions

Write "what" questions for each of these sentences.

Example: ☆ VxD -----what-----
 The little girl wondered if Santa Clause would bring her something.
 What did the little girl wonder?

- 1) Donald thinks that the world is flat! _____
- 2) My friend asked why I was late for class. _____

3) I know where the meeting is. _____

4) He told her when the meeting starts. _____

5) Tommie said that he would come over tonight. _____

Lesson 25 Exercise 3

Completer clause or Describer clause?

You have seen that **Describer clauses** sometimes come at the end of the trunk. **Completer clauses** also come at the end of a trunk. Look at the following sentences. Place a **CW** over the clause word.

- Circle **DsC** if the clause is a **Describer Clause**.
- Circle **Cc** if it is a **Completer Clause**.

- | | | | |
|----|-----|----|--|
| 1. | DsC | Cc | I think that it is time to go. |
| 2. | DsC | Cc | I like the kind of food that your mother makes. |
| 3. | DsC | Cc | The teacher told him that he had passed the examination. |
| 4. | DsC | Cc | We can't see why we should do that. |
| 5. | DsC | Cc | I didn't like any of the people who were at the party. |
| 6. | DsC | Cc | My neighbor is good at fixing computers that have viruses. |
| 7. | DsC | Cc | She asked if you were feeling alright. |
| 8. | DsC | Cc | Who's that woman that's talking to Raymond? |

Lesson 25 Exercise 3

Write some answers to these questions. Use "that" as a clause word.

1) What do you think?

2) What do you believe?

3) What do you know?

