Prof. Juan Santana Lario
☏ 958 24 10 00
Ext. 20243
e-mail: jsantana@ugr.es
http://www.ugr.es/local/jsantana
http://swad.ugr.es

Unit 4. Coordination and Subordination
4.1 Introduction
4.2 Coordination
4.3 Subordination
4.3.1 Nominal clauses
4.3.2 Adverbial clauses

4.1. Introduction

- So far: simple clauses/sentences: 1 clause with constituents (S, O, A, etc) realized by phrases.
- From now on: syntactic ways of expanding simple clauses: combinations of clauses.
- Traditional usage: compound and complex sentences (or: paratactic vs hypotactic connection)
  - Paratactic connection: equal status of elements:
    - Coordination: syndetic (*John bought the tickets* ***and*** *Mary parked the car*); asyndectic: (*John bought the tickets; Mary parked the car*)
    - Apposition: *He has a summer job with a travel agency, guiding parties of tourists*.
    - Quotation: *She said: "Love me or leave me"*
  - Hypotactic connection: unequal status of elements: one depends on the other (which usually means that the dependent or subordinate element is a constituent within the superordinate one): ***Why he resigned*** *was never discovered* (Sub. Cl as S); *She explained* ***that the machine was out of order*** (Sub. Cl as O); ***While John bought the tickets****, Mary parked the car* (Sub. Cl as A)

- An alternative view: the "clause complex":

While Mary was parking the car

[*John bought the tickets*

then [[*started back across the road without looking to right or left*

and

[[*just as he was reaching the other side,* [*he was knocked down by a bus*

and

[*badly injured*

Universidad de Granada

Prof. Juan Santana Lario
☎ 958 24 10 00
Ext. 20243
e-mail: jsantana@ugr.es
http://www.ugr.es/local/jsantana
http://swad.ugr.es

4.2. Coordination

- The linking of units (words, phrases, clauses, etc.) at the same level of structure: *gin and tonic, my brother and your sister, I mop the floor and you do the dishes*. We'll concentrate on clause coordination.
- Types of coordination: asyndetic (no explicit marker) / syndetic: indicated by 'coordinating conjunctions': *and, or, but*

- **Differences between coordinators and subordinators and conjuncts:**

(a)Coordinators are restricted to clause-initial position, subordinators too but not conjuncts
The car skidded and the lorry couldn't avoid it
The car skidded; the lorry, nevertheless, could avoid it

(b)Coordinated clauses are sequentially fixed; true also for conjuncts, not for subordinators.
**Nevertheless the lorry could avoid it, the car skidded*
**And the lorry couldn't avoid it, the car skidded*
Although the car skidded, the lorry could avoid it

(c)Coordinators are not preceded by a conjunction while subordinators and conjuncts can
The car nearly crashed, and yet the driver didn't slow down
The driver didn't slow down because he was in a hurry and because he was slightly drunk

(d)Coordinators can link clause constituents (so can the conjuncts *yet, so, then*)
He could have swerved the wheel or braked but didn't do either, then ran over a cat

(e)Coordinators can link subordinate clauses
The police arrested the driver before he reached the border but after he had driven into a herd of sheep

(f)Coordinators can link more than two clauses
You can take a train or you can drive your our car, or you can walk

			(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Coordinators	Central	*and, or*	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Peripheral	*but*	+	+	+	+	±	-
Conjuncts	Peripheral	*Yet, so, nor*	+	+	±	+	-	-
	Central	*However, therefore*	-	+	-	-	-	-
Subordinators	Peripheral	*For, so that*	+	+	+	-	-	-
	Central	*if, because*	+	-	-	-	-	-

- **Semantic implications of the use of coordinators:**
- AND: Most general coordinator (in meaning and use). The pragmatic-logico-sematic implications of the combination or two or more clauses by means of 'and' depend on a number of factors: prepositional content of conjoined clauses, speakers' presuppositions, knowledge of the world. Adverbials (conjuncts) are frequently used to specify connection).
  - (Pure) Addition: *He has long hair and he often wears a leather jacket*
  - Cause / effect-result-consequence: *We had left the tickets at home, and (so/therefore) there was nothing we could do.*
  - Temporal sequence: *They spread the cloth on the glass and (then) began unpacking the picnic things*
  - Contrast: *Robert is rather tall and (in contrast) his brother is rather short.*
  - Concession: *He criticizes his colleagues and (yet) relies on them for support*
  - Condition: *You might have an accident and (in that case / then) who would rescue you?; Say that againg and you are dead!*
  - Comparison/similarity: *He likes dance music and so does she*
  - Explanation: *There's one thing you must realize and that is that you can't always get what you want*
- OR: General meaning: second clause presents an alternative to the first one
  - Exclusive alternative: *(Either) We give the tickets back or (else) we drop everything and go*
  - Inclusive alternative: *We can make an omelette or cook some pasta (or both)*
  - Correction: *They are having fun, or so it seems*

Prof. Juan Santana Lario
☏ 958 24 10 00
Ext. 20243
e-mail: jsantana@ugr.es
http://www.ugr.es/local/jsantana
http://swad.ugr.es

- Negative condition: *Replace everything in the drawers or (else) something will get mislaid*
- BUT: General meaning: contrast
  - Adversative (~ 'and yet'): *"We are ugly but we have the music" (*L.Cohen)
  - Replacive (~except for, instead): *He didn't stay even an hour, but returned to London on the next train*
  - Concession: *The story is certainly strange, but it's not entirely unbelievable*

4.3. Subordination

- An "asymmetrical" or "hypotactic" relation between clauses: a ('main' or 'superordinate') clause contains (an)other (subordinate) clause(s) as constituents.
- The analysis should include: markers of subordination, function of sub. clause within main clause, morphological realization of sub. clause (finite, non-finite, verbless) and internal structure.
- Markers of subordination:
  - Subordinating conjunction ('subordinator'): simple (*after, as, because*…), compound (*so that, as long as, as if, rather than*…), correlative (*as … as, so.. as*…)
  - *Wh-* element (*who, when, where…)*
  - Subject-operator inversion: *Sad though I wass…, Had I known you then…*
  - Absence of finite verb.
- Clauses without clear indicator of subordination: *that*-clauses without that (*I think you are right*); some comment clauses (*Your are right, I guess*)
- Morphological realization of sub. clause:
  - Finite cl.: *The problem is that they have to choose candidates*
  - Non-finite cl.: *to*-inf cl. (*We want (you) to leave early*), *-ing* cl. (*Knowing her temper, I didn't say anything*), *-ed* cl. (*Discovered almost by accident, the drug has revolutionized medicine*)
  - Verbless cl.: *Although always helful, he was not much liked*)
- Functions within main clause: Subject, object, complement or adverbial in the superordinate clause.
  - S: *What this boy needs is a haircut*
  - OD: *No business man wants to go bust*
  - OI: *They gave whoever visited the stall a present*
  - Cs: *The only way out is to put all our eggs in one basket*
  - Co: *I call that putting the cart before the horse*
  - A: Give me a call when you get home tonight

[In addition to these functions, clauses can also function at phrase level as postmodifiers within NPs, complements within PP or AP, etc. However, strictly speaking this is different from 'subordination' in the sense we are using this term in his unit, ie, referring to clauses functioning as immediate constituents within other clauses.]

- **Classification of subordinate clauses according to structural and functional criteria:**

4.3.1. NOMINAL CLAUSES

TYPE OF NOMINAL CLAUSE	*FUNCTIONS*							
	S	*OD*	*OI*	*CS*	*CO*	*App*	*AdjC*	*PreC*
That-clause[1]	+[2]	+	-	+	-	+	+	-
Wh- Relative clause[3]	+	+	+[4]	+	?	-	+	+
Interrogative clause (*yes*/no and *wh-*)[3]	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
Exclamative clause	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
To-infinite clause[5]	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-
-ing clause[5]	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+

Footnotes:

1. *that* is frequently omitted; omission/retention of *that* is not random but subject to a number of factors:
   - Register factors: conversation: typical omission; academic prose: omission is unusual.
   - Grammatical factors favouring omission:
     - the *that*-cl functions as O, C, or extraposed S
     - the main clause verb is *say/think/know*
     - the subject of the main and *that*-cl. are co-referential

Eg: - *I think I'll make a shopping list today.*
- *You said you wouldn't.*
- *It's a pity you always complain.* (Cf. *That you always complain is a pity*)

Prof. Juan Santana Lario
☎ 958 24 10 00
Ext. 20243
e-mail: jsantana@ugr.es
http://www.ugr.es/local/jsantana
http://swad.ugr.es

- Grammatical factors favouring retention:
  - *That*-cl is coordinated to another clause: *Everybody could see that something was about to happen and that there was nothing we could do.*
  - Main clause is passive: *I was told that those who support the government's view had been excluded; It was reported that the President would resign*
  - Intervening material between main verb and *that*-cl: *Everybody could see, I believe, that the bullfighter was terrified; They had warned him that the bull was dangerous.*

2. Subject *that*-cl. are frequently extraposed and replaced in initial position by an anticipatory *it* ('end-weight principle'):
- Factors favouring extraposition:
  - Main clause is exclamatory: extraposition is obligatory: *How strange it is that no one has complained!*
  - main clause is interrogative or passive: extraposition is very likely: *Is it possible that they reach an agreement?*, *It was thought that they would*.

Object *that*-cl. are normally extraposed when accompanied by a CO: *I find it strange that no one has shown up yet*.

3. *Wh*-relative and *wh*-interrogative clauses are easily confused since they share the same subordinators (*wh*-words: *who, what, when,* etc.). Clues to distinguish them:
- *Wh*-inter. contain a gap of unknown information represented by the *wh*-element and the main clause expresses some concern with supplying the missing information (*Do you know what they eat for breakfast?*); *wh*-rel do not contain a gap in information (*I always eat what I like). Cf. What caused the accident is to be discovered* (Interr.) */ What caused the accident was an electrical fault* (Rel.); *Who caused the accident is a complete mystery* (Interr) */ Whoever caused the accident was very careless* (Rel.)
- In *wh*-inter. the *wh*-word is normally stressed: *I wonder 'who stole my cheese*.
- When *wh*-rel. function as Subject they show agreement with verb: *What I have is yours /. What were left behind were five empty bottles*. *Wh*-interr. are always singular: *Which movie I prefer is not your business / Which movies I saw is not your business.*
- In *wh*-rel prepositions are always at the end: *Whoever you vote for will disappoint you. (*For whoever…); wh*-inter. allow a choice in the placement of the preposition: *Who(m) I will vote for is my business; For whom I will vote is my business*
- In *wh*-rel *who, whom* and *which* only appear with a small semantic class of verbs: *choose, like, please, want, wish*; the are no restrictions in *wh*-inter.
- *-ever* forms tend to appear only in *wh*-rel: *I read whatever I could find about Malcolm-X* vs *??She asked me whatever was doing.*

Some nominal *wh*-clauses are genuinely ambiguous and will allow both a relative and an interrogative interpretation:

- *Do you remember when we got lost?* Rel. interpretation: Do you remember that occasion, how scared we were, etc.?

Inter. interpretation: Do you remember the date?

4. Nominal clauses (actually, *all* clauses) are semantically abstract: they represent 'propositions', 'states of affairs' rather than concrete objects, entities, etc., which are typically represented by NPs: that's why they do not normally function as OI, since the OI typically represents a concrete, animate entity). The fact that nominal wh-relative clauses are the only ones that appear with this function is due to their quasi-NP character.

5. Although *to*-inf and *–ing* clauses (and some*wh*-clauses: those introduced by *when, where, how, why*) are classified here as 'nominal' clauses (since they perform typical nominal functions: S, O, etc.) they should also be included among adverbial clauses since they can also have adverbial functions: *I did it to please her; We had an accident driving home.*

4.3.2. ADVERBIAL CLAUSES

- **Syntactic functions:**
  - Minor:
    - Subjunct, Viewpoint: restricted set of verbs: *be concerned, go, consider, look at view* (Eg: *If we look at it from an historical point of view, the next six months are critical; Looking at it objectively, he is a disaster*).
    - Conjunct: Reinforcing: *What is more,…; What is more worrying…;* Listing, summative: *to beging (with), to conclude, to continue, to sum up*

Prof. Juan Santana Lario
☏ 958 24 10 00
Ext. 20243
e-mail: jsantana@ugr.es
http://www.ugr.es/local/jsantana
http://swad.ugr.es

- Major: Adjunct and Disjunct: sometimes difficult to distinguish:

Adjunct	**Content Disjunct**
- Time: *I haven't seen her* ***since she move to Bristol***	Reason: ***Since we live near the sea****, we often go sailing*
- Time: *She arrived* ***while I was sunbathing***	Contrast: *I teach contemporary history,* ***while she teaches art***
- Purpose: *We paid him immediately* ***so that he would leave contented***	Result: *We paid him immediately,* ***so that he left contented***
- Condition: *They'll send it to you* ***if you ask them politely***	Condition: *I'll get lost,* ***unless I can find my compass***
- Reason: *I like him* ***because he's always helpful***	Reason: *I like him,* ***since he's always helpful***
	Style Disjunct
- Direct Condition: ***If you put the baby down*** *she won't scream*	Indir. Cond.: *She and I are just good friends,* ***if you know what I mean***
- Dir. Reason: *We have no electricity,* ***because there's a power failure***	Indir.Reason: Yellow is her favourite, **because she told me so**

- **Semantic roles:**

Complex issue:
- the same subordinator can introduce adverbial clauses with very different meanings
- some clauses combine several meanings:
  - Time+Result: *She massaged him* ***until he.. began to feel better***
  - Time+Purpose+Result: *I had to put my complaint in writing* ***before they would take any action***
  - Time+(Implied)Condition: *Go****before I call the police***
  - Time+Cause: *My heat leaps* ***whenever I see you***
  - Time+Concession: *They were gossiping,* ***when they should have been working***
  - Condition+Concession: ***Even if you dislike ancient monuments****, Warwick Castle is worth a visit*

- **Major types:** time, place, condition/concession, reason and cause, circumstance, purpose, result.
- Minor types: manner, comparison, proportion, preference, contrast

Major Adverbial Clauses

(i)Time

Great variety of linkers: *when, while, after... .* Most common position is initial: *After arriving at Gatwick, we took a coach to London.* Adverbial clauses of time with future reference are usually in simple present though in some cases we can find present perfect in time sequences.

(ii)Place

Linkers: *where, wherever: Leave your hat wherever you can.* Not all clauses introduced by these linkers are adverbial of place: *Home is where the heart is* (Nominal relative clause as Cs); *Wherever you go, you find Japanese* (Adverbial universal concessive clauses)

(iii)Condition:

- Positive condition: *if, provided that, as long as, in the event of*; Negative condition: *unless, but for, without*; Concessive condition: *even if, although, in spite of, without*
- Direct condition: the situation in the main clause is contingent on the situation in the subordinate clause; syntactically: adjuncts

a)Possible (or 'Open'): IF + PRESENT (SHOULD)/[IMPERATIVE/FUTURE]: *If you want to park here, pay the parking meter; If we should miss the train, we'll be late.*

b) Hypothetical: what is said in the main clause is imaginary consequence of the fact expressed in the if-clause. IF + SIMPLE PAST/CONDITIONAL: *If we caught that train, we might get there in time; If you won the pools, you wouldn't know what to do with the money*

c) Contrary to present facts : IF + PAST PERFECT/CONDITIONAL PERFECT: *If you had listened to my advice, you wouldn't have had an accident*

- Indirect condition: the condition is not related to the situation in the main clause, but to the implicit speech act of the utterance: *She is too cleve,* ***if I may so***; syntactically: style disjuncts.

- Rhetorical condition: not real conditions but implicit strong assertions: ***If they're Irish****, I'm the Pope* (Implied assertion: *'They are not Irish')*

Prof. Juan Santana Lario
☎ 958 24 10 00
Ext. 20243
e-mail: jsantana@ugr.es
http://www.ugr.es/local/jsantana
http://swad.ugr.es

(iv)Concession: the situation in the main clause is unexpected in the light of the situation in the concessive clause
In conditional sentences we have a potential meaning: one set of circumstances depends on the other. In concessive clauses the feature is reality: *Though he is ill, he will come to class*
We establish a sort of contrast between two statements. In conditional sentences we can use *and/or*, in concessives, *but*. In the former we can find a reinforcing element: *if... then*. *Even if/though* is between condition and contrast. *If... at least/at any rate* is closer to concession
Subordinators: *although, though, while, whereas, even though, even if*

Alternative and Universal Conditional/Concessive clauses):
1. Alternative: *whether … or (whether), no matter whether*: ***Whether you like it or not,*** *I'm leaving*
2. Universal- *Wh*-element + *-ever: Don't believe her, whatever she says.*
Whatever is stated in the main clause is true in any of the conditions covered by the subordinate clause: *However he tries, he never succeeds; No matter how I try, I can't float*

(v)Cause, reason and circumstance: *I'll lend him the money because he is your friend*
Direct Reason: *because* ; syntactically: Adjuncts; Indirect Reason (or 'Circumstance'): *since, as*; syntactically: Disjuncts
A text transformation to distinguish them is to make them the focus of a cleft sentence:
He should be punished [because he behaved naughtily]
It is because he behaved naughtily that he should be punished
As/since are usually placed at the beginning of the sentence. *Since* focuses more emphatically on the cause than *as*.
There are also compound subordinators: *considering that, now that, in that, in as much as*
Forgive them in as much as they are young

Semantic subtypes:

a) Cause and effect: inherent objective connection in the real world between situation in main and subordinate clause: *She knows so much* ***because she reads a lot.***
b) Reason and consequence: speaker's inference of a connection: *She watered the flowers* ***because they were dry.***
c) Motivation and result: intention of an animate being with a subsequent result: *You'll help me* ***because you're my friend***
d) Circumstances and consequence: ***Since the weather has improved****, we can take a walk tomorrov*

These adverbial meaning can also be realised by non-finite or verbless clauses: *Being a teacher, I believe in higher standards of education* (reason and cause)

(vi) Purpose and result
· Purpose: Syntactically: adjuncts
a)non-finite: to-infinitive clauses: *We are working hard to improve food production*; not to be confused with objects realized by to-inf.: *We want to improve food production.* Subordinators: *so as to, in order to*
b)finite: *so that, in order that, lest* (+modal verb in the subordinate) the order is not fixed: *He shut the window so that the neighbours wouldn't hear the noise*
· Result: syntactically: disjuncts; same linkers as in purpose clauses, but there is no modal and the subordinate is always postponed: *He shut the windows, so that the neighbours didn't hear*

Minor adverbial clauses
- **manner** – **comparison**: *as, as if/though, like, much as*, also *the way that, in a way that: We did it as we had been taught; He speaks as his father does*; *Is she often rude and cross like she's been this last month?*
Hypothetical comparison: *They ran as if their lives depended on it*
- **proportion** – preference: semantic implication of proportion: circumstances are compared in terms of equivalent tendencies: the more (-er).....the more (-er); *As time went on, things got worse*
- **preference**: *prefer, would rather, had sooner, rather than (to inf./O/-ing): He prefers to stay in a flat to living in a cottage; I'd sooner pay than do any of these things* .
Hypothetical preference: same subject: *I'd rather go to "Unforgiven";* different subject: *I'd rather you came with me*

- **contrast:** *whereas, while, whilst: I teach physics,* ***while she teaches chemistry.***