

GRAMMAR TIP #10

ADVERB CLAUSES



Adverb clauses are dependent clauses that describe *when, where, why, how, to what extent, or under what condition* an action happens. They begin with subordinating conjunctions such as *because, although, when, if, since, while, and unless*, among others. Adverb clauses can start the sentence or come after an independent clause. Notice how the punctuation changes depending on its position:

Examples:

- When we finish collecting the data, the team will proceed with the analysis.
When the sentence begins with an adverb clause, separate it from the independent clause with a comma.
- The professor extended the deadline since several students were ill.
When the independent clause comes first, a comma is generally unnecessary.
- The students completed the project, even though the timeframe was short.
When the independent clause comes first and the dependent clause expresses contrast, use a comma.

Note: What clause to place first (dependent or independent) depends on your purpose, emphasis, and flow.

**GOT
QUESTIONS?**

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