The Adverb Clause

17f. An *adverb clause* is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.

An adverb clause tells how, when, where, why, to what extent, or under what condition.

EXAMPLES Wherever you travel, people will help you. [The clause modifies the verb will help, telling where.]

> This speaker sounds much better than that one does. [The clause modifies the adjective better, telling under what condition.]

Our books should arrive tomorrow since they were shipped on time. [The clause modifies the verb arrive, telling why.]

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the adverb clause.

Example 1. Once Dad began to travel overseas, all of us wanted to go on a trip with him.

- When we visited Kyoto, Japan, we stayed in a ryokan, a kind of lodging.
- We always removed our shoes before we entered a room.
- Dad reminded us if we forgot.
- I vowed to try a new food every day provided that someone told me what it was.
- 5. After we finish eating dinner, couldn't we take a walk?
- While we were at dinner, someone turned down our beds.
- We have found this ryokan to be very nice since it provides robes and slippers.
- 8. If we have a bath tonight, will we sleep better?
- The water in the bath was much hotter than I had expected!
- My brother can sleep anywhere as long as he has a pillow and a blanket.

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, underline the adverb clause once and underline twice the word or words it modifies.

Example 1. After my truck is repaired, I will drive to town.

- Although it is very late, the birds are still chirping.
- George was assigned to the Senegal office because he was a specialist in African affairs.
- As soon as she was settled on the airplane, Hasna relaxed.
- The singer worked whenever he could.
- Alsatians are good police dogs because they are very intelligent.