

## Identifying and Classifying Subordinate Clauses A

- 17d.** An *adjective clause* is a subordinate clause that modifies a noun or a pronoun.
- 17e.** A *noun clause* is a subordinate clause that is used as a noun.
- 17f.** An *adverb clause* is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.
- 17g.** Part of a clause may be left out when its meaning can be clearly understood from the context of the sentence. Such a clause is called an *elliptical clause*.

**EXAMPLES** This house, **which is near the park**, is a great deal! [adjective clause]  
 The front porch is **what I like about the house**. [noun clause]  
 Don't forget to bring the insurance papers **when we meet**. [adverb clause]  
 Their essay is not due any sooner **than ours [is]**. [elliptical clause]

**EXERCISE** In each of the following sentences, underline the subordinate clause. Then, identify the type of clause by writing one of the following abbreviations above it: *ADJ* for *adjective clause*, *ADV* for *adverb clause*, or *N* for *noun clause*. Then, also write *E* over each elliptical clause.

**Example 1.** <sup>ADV-E</sup>  
As spoken, the words of that nonsense poem sounded hilarious.

- Because mastering computer technology is one of the biggest challenges, schools must include computer training in the curriculum.
- The referees assessed our opponents more minutes in the penalty box than us.
- My grandmother, who is a former dancer, advised my sister and me in improvisational dance.
- My politician grandfather often brags that he could “wheedle a vote out of an opponent.”
- Are you aware of the underlying political philosophy that this newspaper editor supports?
- When the convention was held, feminists revolted against rigid gender roles.
- My great-grandmother, who was one of the early suffragettes, lectured on the need for a federal law giving women the vote.
- While complaining about vacuuming the living room rug, my kid brother tripped over the cord.
- When organizing our foods-around-the-world party, please ask for paper plates and plastic silverware.
- Whoever explains the riddle will win the prize.