

ANSWERS for Send in Task 3: Questions for Discussion & Analysis

Discussion

1. At clause level what is the justification of using P (predicator) and not V (verb)?

V (verb) is a form, and not a functional category. P (predicator), however, is a functional category. There are different levels of analysis. On the level of clause function, we find functional categories, one of them being the predicator. Now, on another level of analysis, the predicator can be realised as something else, for example a verb. If we were to use the term verb instead of predicator, describing a sentence would be very confusing since the term verb would be found on two different levels. By using P for predicator we know that P always represents a clausal function and V is a verb on the word level.

2. How does a non-Finite Clause differ from a Finite Clause?

A finite clause has a finite verb while a non-finite clause has a non-finite verb in the predicator. Also, a finite clause can stand on its own as a complete sentence, but a non-finite clause cannot. It must have a finite clause to hang onto. In some books non-finite clauses are referred to as verbal clauses.

e.g. Before going to bed, = nfc

3. Discuss the usage of **THAT** in the following:

1. *I realised **that** I had forgotten my keys.* **dependent THAT-clause**
2. ***That** she is happy is perfectly obvious* **subordinating conjunction**
3. *The person **that** wins the most votes will be elected President* **relative pronoun**

The word *that* can be used for many different functions. In both the first and second sentence it is used in a finite clause in the **Od** position (1) and the **S** position (2). In the third sentence *that* is a relative pronoun.

4. Discuss the steps which must be taken when drawing a syntax tree for the following, then draw it:

Can you complete the task by tomorrow.

Convert into declarative: You can complete the task by tomorrow

Then draw the syntax tree. Finally draw an arrow and move the aux verb to initial position

5. Distinguish between a **compound-complex** sentence and a **complex** sentence. Provide your own language example.

A complex sentence has one independent main clause and at least one dependent clause, for example *Although, she passed the exam, she felt somewhat disappointed.* A compound-complex sentence is a mix between a compound and a complex sentence, in the way that it has two independent clauses (compound) and at least one dependent clause (complex). The sentence *The get-away car crashed into the building and the robbers escaped just as the police arrived* is a compound-complex sentence.

6. Is the following sentence **simple, compound or complex**? Justify why

Because of the extremely high prices, the suppliers originating from Libya imported the very popular fruits and vegetables from their home country.

A complex sentence. The sentence above is complex since it contains one dependent clause starting with "because", and one independent clause. The word and in *fruits and vegetables* should not be mistaken for a coordinating conjunction joining two independent clauses (it just adds a noun to the NP).

Analysis

7. What are the clausal functions in the following:

My father-in-law was not a tall man compared with average American men. His arms and legs were not fat or big. Only his waist was huge compared to other parts of his body. His waist looked liked a stuffed cushion. He loved to drink, which may have contributed to his waistline. (1) His face was always gentle like a typical grandpa. His wavy hair was shiny white and gray, but he was not at all bald. His hairstyle reminded me of a movie star's hairstyle, which is called "romantic gray". He must have been a very handsome man when he was young. He had a wide forehead. (2) When my son played with him, he would bump his forehead against my son's forehead. His eyes, which I could see through his glasses, became very sharp when he discussed politics with his son. (3) He told me he had read most of the books in the neighbourhood library. His eyes showed his high level of intelligence.

(1) His face was always gentle like a typical grandpa.

S P A Ps

(2) When my son played with him, he would bump his forehead against my son's forehead.

A (sub clause) S P Od A or Ac
Sub S P Od

(3) He told me he had read most of the books in the neighbourhood library.

S P Oi Od (dep finite clause)
S P Od A

8. Identify whether the sentences (below) are simple (SIM), compound (COM), complex (CLX) or compound-complex (CM-CX). OBS! You MUST embolden (fetstil) **ALL** the finite verbs.

1. *Inside one of the rooms, where a band **was** playing, I **saw** a display for Compassion International. **CLX***
2. *My heart **skipped** a beat; I **had** to save this child's life! **COM***
3. *A picture of a pale, heartbreaking face **popped** out at me. **SIM***
4. *I **picked** up a pen and **filled** out the information on the form. **SIM***
5. *As my eyes **gazed** at the table, I **observed** cream-colored papers which **were** neatly folded with the words "My Child of Compassion" in ink. **CLX***
6. *A person with an internal locus of control **feels** in charge of his or her life, and this person **has** the power within to handle situations. **COM***
7. *The hair, which **was** black and dirty, **surrounded** the young girl's face, and her licorice eyes **whispered** her poor state of living . **CM-CX***
8. *I **was** at a Christian gathering in Atlanta, Georgia. **SIM***

9. Classify the function/ sub-function of the subordinate/dependent clause in the following sentences. Clearly place (brackets) around the subordinate clause and state its function and/ or sub-function (S, P, Od, Oi, Ps, Pc, Ac, A, pre-mod, post-mod) in the space provided.

1. *Whales cannot breathe under water (because they have lungs). **A***
2. *John, (who always kicks the ball hard), is the best player. **post-mod***
3. *Only five percent of the people of the United States say (that they dream in color). **Od***

4. *I will stay home (if he comes).* **A**
5. *I had to go to work at 6:00 in the morning three times a week (because there was so much to do).* **A**
6. *The largest fish ever caught was a white shark (that weighed 2,176 pounds).* **post-mod**
7. *I need a bag (that I can carry on the plane).* **post-mod**
8. *(When the snow falls), all children are happy.* **A**

10. **Disregard the opening adverbial if there is one.** Then identify (ii) the determiner(s), (iii) the head of the subject, (iv) the pre- and post-modifiers, and (v) the finite verb in the predicator. Write all the words (use dots (...)) between words so that everything fits in the box.

a) *Despite making the most sound, the noisy boys in the group have complained the most.*

Determiner(s) the
 Pre-mod noisy
 Head boys
 Post-mod in the group
 Finite verb have

b) *The beautifully curved nose handed out so impartially to Indians is significant for them.*

Determiner(s) the
 Pre-mod beautifully curved
 Head nose
 Post-mod handed out so impartially to Indians
 Finite verb is

c) *The President's loss of authority among the American people was emphasized yesterday by new opinion surveys .*

Determiner(s) the
 Pre-mod president's
 Head loss
 Post-mod of authority among the American people
 Finite verb was

d) *The gorgeous, wonderful, black hair on the young girl surrounded her soft, oval face.*

Determiner(s) the
 Pre-mod gorgeous, wonderful, black
 Head hair
 Post-mod on the young girl
 Finite verb surrounded

e) *In a plush garden, a select gathering of Saudi men and women sipped orange juice as they listened to a lecture.*

Determiner(s) a
 Pre-mod select
 Head gathering
 Post-mod of Saudi men and women
 Finite verb sipped