

# How to join two or more simple sentences into a single complex sentence

## Method

Change one of the simple sentences into a principal clause and the others into subordinate clauses.

### By using a noun clause

A noun clause does the work of a noun. It can act as the subject or the object of the verb in the principal clause.

A good education is essential for success in life. He believes this.

He believes that a good education is essential for success in life.

Could he depend on the guide? The traveler did not know.

The traveler did not know whether he could depend on the guide.

He is bent on mischief. It is known to everybody.

That he is bent on mischief is known to everybody.

### By using an adjective clause

An adjective clause does the work of an adjective. It can modify a noun or pronoun in the main clause.

The slave had to fight with a hungry lion. The lion was kept in a cage.

The slave had to fight with a hungry lion which was kept in a cage.

He is a prince. Trouble had driven him from home.

He is a prince whom trouble had driven from home.

### By using an adverb clause

An adverb clause does the work of an adverb. It can modify a verb, an adjective or another adverb in the main clause.

He got the first prize. He was happy.

He was happy when he got the first prize.

He was happy because he got the first prize.

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Jack fought very well. As a result of that the captain asked him to join his band of soldiers.

Jack fought so well that the captain asked him to join his band of soldiers.

He worked hard. His goal was to gain promotion.

He worked hard that he might gain promotion.