

ELG, 15th handout, some very interesting dependent clauses

Identify dependent clauses, placing them in brackets and labeling them subordinate or relative; explain how each functions within the greater sentence. Watch for subordinate clauses that appear to be adjectival. Also, identify verbals and verbal phrases, explaining how each functions within the sentence or a clause.

1. After fifty-generations of experimental breeding, Johnny Boy the dog fox emerged to the surprise of the breeders.
2. The breeders, a select group of arctic-circle pacifists who wished to rid the world of evil fox genes, carefully selected the most caring and gentle pups for breeding.
3. Whenever pups showed dramatic signs of equanimity, they were showered with affection and pampering that rivaled the fulsome treatment of early pagan gods.
4. After this sort of treatment and breeding went on for years, the resulting animals were more like hand-bag dogs than foxes.
5. When he was born, Johnny Boy was different.
6. He was the first born of the fiftieth generation, yet trouble reared its head on the day he was born.

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7. As though he thought himself a prince, he began to bark orders on the morning after the day that he was born.

8. Bred with care and compassion, he nevertheless gave aggrieved looks to any pup that was born after the day when he was born.

9. If these pups frisked about him as he slept, Johnny Boy retaliated by egging the cages where they slept.

10. Even though he was born the king of calm, Johnny Boy the dog fox could not resist the urge to introduce great waves of woe.

11. That he had a soft spot for rabbits is true.

12. He might fight with felines but not with bunnies.

13. For some reason, bunnies made Johnny Boy smile and think responsible thoughts.