

ELG, 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

*Annotations:* "After fifty-generations of experimental breeding" is a subordinate clause (S) acting as a modifier. "Johnny Boy the dog fox" is an appositive (AV) renaming the subject. "emerged" is the main verb (V). "to the surprise of the breeders" is a prepositional phrase (PP).

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.

*Annotations:* "The breeders, a select group of arctic-circle pacifists who wished to rid the world of evil fox genes" is an appositive (AV) renaming the subject. "carefully selected" is the main verb (V). "the most caring and gentle pups for breeding" is the direct object (DO). "who wished to rid the world of evil fox genes" is an adjectival relative clause (S) modifying "pacifists".

*Handwritten note:* "who wished to rid the world of evil fox genes" ← Infinitive phrase acting as DO in the adjectival relative clause

3. Whenever pups showed dramatic signs of equanimity, they were showered with affection and pampering that rivaled the fulsome treatment (of early pagan gods).

*Annotations:* "Whenever pups showed dramatic signs of equanimity" is an adverbial subordinate clause (S) acting as a modifier. "they were showered" is the main verb (V). "with affection and pampering" is a prepositional phrase (PP). "that rivaled the fulsome treatment (of early pagan gods)" is an adjectival relative clause (S) modifying "pampering".

4. After this sort of treatment and breeding went on for years, the resulting animals were more like hand-bag dogs than foxes.

*Annotations:* "After this sort of treatment and breeding went on for years" is an adverbial subordinate clause (S) acting as a modifier. "the resulting animals were" is the main verb (V). "more like hand-bag dogs than foxes" is a prepositional phrase (PP).  
 \* "More" is tricky. It can be adjectival, act as a noun, pronoun, or adverb. I suppose it might here be considered a PN.

5. When he was born, Johnny Boy was different.

*Annotations:* "When he was born" is an adverbial subordinate clause (S) acting as a modifier. "Johnny Boy was different" is the main verb (V).

6. He was the first born of the fiftieth generation, yet trouble reared its head (on the day) that he was born.

*Annotations:* "He was the first born of the fiftieth generation" is the main clause (S). "yet" is a coordinating conjunction (CJ). "trouble reared its head (on the day)" is the main verb (V). "that he was born" is a subordinate clause (S) modifying "day".

I see this as a subordinate clause - I also see it modifying "day."

"As though" functions as a subordinating conjunction.  
 A variety of multiword phrase can be described as functioning in this way including "as soon as," "even though," and "just in case," among others.

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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.

Annotations: S AV DO OC | S AV. "As though" phrase acting as DO of "began."

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

Annotations: participial phrase, Adverbial main clause, AV part DO, Adjectival Relative Clause, ~~Another Adjectival Subordinate clause~~.

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

Annotations: Adv. Sub clause, ADV Sub clause, S AV, Gerund O/P, O/G/R.

These are relative clauses w/ rel. adverbs acting adj.

\* 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.

Annotations: ADV SUBORDINATE CLAUSE, S AV, Appositive, DO, O/P, Adj. infinitive phrase.

\* "He was born the King" is fun. "King" is NO DO. This seems to be elliptical for "He was born [as] King"

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

Annotations: Sub clause as subject, S DO, LW PA.

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

Annotations: S AV, "NOT" in this elliptical construction stands in for something like "not fight."

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

Annotations: Pseudo subject of both infinitives, S AV, to to, O/Infinitive "think", Inf phrase as DO.