Noun Clauses
Explanation and Rules

A noun clause is a clause that works as a noun or the subject of a sentence. Such type sentences can be built by words such as; what, how, they, when, where, which, who, why, whom, whomever, whichever, whether.

Noun Clauses as Objects - Examples

• Congratulations to whoever has listened us until here.

“Whoever has listened us until here” is a noun clause here. The sentence has whoever as subject and listen as the verb of the noun clause. We used “whoever” as the word that links the main sentence and the noun clause because we are talking about people in this sentence.

• The focus of our educational content is how you can speak English.

“How you can speak English” is a noun clause. Speak is in the verb role here. “You” is the subject of this example. We use “how” here because the noun clause gives information about a method to speak English.

• The content is for whomever wants to begin learning English.

“Whomever wants to begin learning English” is the noun clause here. It serves as the object of the preposition “for”. We use “whomever” because it takes the place of an object pronoun.

• Whichever you choose for me, I’ll be happy.

“Whichever you choose for me” is the noun clause here and it’s the object of the sentence. We use “which” for animals or non-living things, and we use “whichever” if there are multiple options.

• Make sure you are thankful to whomever contributed to your promotion.

“Whomever contributed to your promotion” is the noun clause here. Again, we use “whomever” because it takes place of an object pronoun.

• Do you know what the weather is like outside?

“What the weather is like outside” is the noun clause in this sentence. We used “what” because it is the “Wh- question word” of the original question, which is “What is the weather like?” That’s why, we write “what” first, and then write the rest of the sentence like it is a positive sentence.

• His personal strength is that he is a perfect researcher.

“That he is a perfect researcher” is the noun clause here and it is the object of the sentence. We use “that” after “verb to be” if we want to turn a sentence into a noun clause.
• Our history turned into the reason why I love her.

“Why I love her” is the noun clause here. We use “why” when we explain a reason.

• I don’t know how long it takes for the bus to arrive.

“How long it takes for the bus to arrive” is the noun clause. We use “how long” because it defines the period of time.

**Noun Clauses as Subjects - Examples**

• What you bought for my birthday was great.

“What you bought for my birthday” is the noun clause and this time it is the subject of the sentence. We use “what” to describe things.

• How the waiter behaved was really disrespectful.

“How the waiter behaved” is the noun clause here. It is again the subject of the sentence and we use “how” to describe the way that the waiter behaved.

• Whoever made this mess should also clean it.

“Whoever made this mess” is the noun clause and it is the subject. We use “whoever” to describe people.