

3-Time clauses

Time clauses are used to indicate the time that an event in the main clause takes place. The main time conjunctions are *when, as soon as, before, after, until, as* and *while*.

Such conjunctions are followed by present or present perfect tense if the main verb is in the future tense.

Examples:

- (a)-I shall go to the park when it stops raining.
- (b)-As soon as he has finished his work ,he will go out.
- (c)-We shall wait here until the police come there.
- (d)-He will call you before he leaves for Beirut next Monday.

If the main verb is in past ,the subordinate verb must be past too if the two actions happen in the same time and if not,the subordinate verb must be past perfect.

Examples:

- (a)-I got on the bus as soon as it stopped (the same time).
- (b)-When the ship hit the rock,it sank(the same time).
- (c)-As soon as I had finished my work ,I went out(I finished my work, then I went).

3-1-Before-After

They have been explained previously .

Before+simple+simple(the same tense).

Example:

-Before he got in the train,he reached the station.

Before+simple+perfect

Example:

-Before he stayed alone,he had lived with his family.

After+simple+simple(the same time) .

Example:

-After he reached the station, he got in the train.

After+perfect+simple

Example:

After he had left the house,he stayed alone.

3-2-While –as

Patterns:

(a)-While or as+simple+future

Example:

-I shall wait while you get some fruits.

(b)While or as+continuous+simple

Example:

The phone rang while I was leaving the room.

Exercise 3

Link the following clauses:

1-I 'll cook the supper.I come home(Time clause).

2-I went to bed. I had turned off the lights(Time clause).

3-We'll wait here. My friends come there(Time clause).

4-He'll return home. It gets dark(Time clause).

5-Do not jump off the bus.It is moving(Time clause).