

Grammar Handout: That Clauses

A 'that clause' is a clause (subject + verb) that functions as a noun in a sentence. It helps connect a complete idea to another sentence.

1) After a Noun + Be

Formula: Noun + is + (that) + clause

- One problem is (that) students don't practice enough.
- The fact is (that) money cannot buy happiness.
- The reason is (that) she was tired.

2) After an Adjective

Formula: It is + adjective + (that) + clause

- It is clear (that) English is important.
- It is surprising (that) he passed the exam.
- It is obvious (that) she is unhappy.

3) What's + Adjective + Is (Emphasis)

Formula: What's + adjective + is + (that) + clause

- What's interesting is (that) people learn differently.
- What's important is (that) we try our best.
- What's surprising is (that) nobody complained.

4) After Reporting Verbs

Formula: Subject + verb + (that) + clause

- I think (that) English is fun.
- She believes (that) hard work brings success.
- Research shows (that) exercise improves mood.
- They said (that) the exam was difficult.

Important Notes

- In informal English, 'that' is usually optional.
- The that clause functions as a noun in the sentence.