ADVERBIAL CLAUSES

CEFR Level C1 — Advanced

English Language Worksheets | 4 Worksheets + Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Advanced Adverbial Structures

At C1, basic conjunctions are assumed. Focus: inversion, reduction, nuance.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Key structures at C1

Structure	Function & Notes	Example
inverted conditionals	Drop ‘if’; formal register	“Had the warning come sooner, lives would have been saved.”
negative-adverbial inversion	Fronted ‘not until / no sooner / only when’ + inversion	“Not until the data were checked did they publish.”
participle (reduced) clauses	Shared subject; -ing / -ed / having + -ed	“Pressed for time, she skipped the introduction.”
concessive fronting	‘Much as / However / Whatever’ to concede emphatically	“Hard though it was, we persevered.”
‘lest’ / ‘in order that’	Formal purpose; ‘lest’ + should / subjunctive	“She wrote it down lest she forget.”
‘in case’ vs ‘if’	Precaution vs condition — not interchangeable	“Take a map in case you get lost.” (not ‘if’)

PART A — **Complete the sentences**

Fill in each gap with an appropriate word or phrase. More than one answer may be possible.

1. _____ though the evidence was compelling, the jury remained unconvinced.
2. Not until the second reading _____ the flaw in the argument become clear.
3. _____ pressed for a decision, the committee deferred once again.
4. She noted the address down _____ she should forget it later.
5. _____ I known the outcome, I would never have agreed.
6. No sooner _____ the ceasefire announced than fighting resumed.
7. _____ the objections, the board approved the merger.
8. Take a spare battery _____ the recorder fails mid-interview.

PART B — **Error analysis**

Identify and correct the error in each sentence. Then note the rule violated.

1 “Hardly I had sat down when the phone rang.”
Correction: _____
Rule: _____

2 “Despite it was raining, the match continued.”
Correction: _____
Rule: _____

3 “Walking through the park, the statue impressed me.”
Correction: _____
Rule: _____

4 “She took an umbrella if it rained later.”
Correction: _____
Rule: _____

Score: _____ / 20

Worksheet 2: Register, Nuance & Cohesion

The same relationship, marked formally, neutrally, or emphatically.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **The register spectrum**

Advanced writers select conjunctions for register and precision. Study the tables.

Relationship	Neutral	Formal / emphatic
reason	because, as, since	seeing that, inasmuch as, in that
concession	although, though, but	notwithstanding, albeit, whilst, granted that
purpose	so that, to	in order that, lest, with a view to
condition	if, unless	provided that, on condition that, should

Connector	Nuance
albeit	concedes a single word/phrase, not a full clause: ‘brief, albeit useful’
whereas / while	sets up a balanced contrast between two facts
insofar as	limits a claim to a specific extent
given that	reason presented as an accepted premise

PART B — **Register transformation**

Rewrite each sentence in the register indicated, changing only the connector and any words that must agree.

1. Because the funds were limited, the scope was reduced. *(formal: ‘inasmuch as’)*
   → _____
2. Although the report was short, it was thorough. *(concede a phrase: ‘albeit’)*
   → _____
3. She revised her notes so that she would not forget. *(formal purpose: ‘lest’)*
   → _____
4. If you submit the form, we will process your claim. *(formal condition: ‘provided that’)*
   → _____

PART C — **Verdicts**

Decide whether each use is (a) standard, (b) acceptable but marked/stylistic, or (c) a genuine error. Justify in one sentence.

1. “The talk was short, albeit it was informative.”
   Verdict: (a)/(b)/(c) Justification: _____
2. “Inasmuch as resources allow, we will expand.”
   Verdict: (a)/(b)/(c) Justification: _____
3. “Scarcely had we left when the storm broke.”
   Verdict: (a)/(b)/(c) Justification: _____

4	“I'll wait in case you will come.” Verdict: (a)/(b)/(c) Justification: _____
5	“Granted that the plan is bold, it is not reckless.” Verdict: (a)/(b)/(c) Justification: _____

Score: _____ / 25

Worksheet 3: Academic Writing & Critical Analysis

How subordination shapes argument and emphasis.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Analytical reading**

> *Whenever a discipline borrows a method from another, it inherits assumptions along with techniques. Economists adopted the mathematics of physics in order that their models might appear rigorous; yet, insofar as human behaviour resists the tidy regularities of particles, the borrowing was always partial. Not until the recent turn towards behavioural evidence did the field seriously confront this mismatch. Even so, and much as critics welcomed the correction, a difficulty remained: the more precisely one models irrationality, the more one risks explaining everything and predicting nothing. Granted that no model captures reality whole, the useful question is not whether a theory simplifies, but whether it simplifies where it matters.*

1. Identify FIVE adverbial clauses and label the type of each (time, reason, purpose, concession, condition, proportion).

_____

_____

_____

2. Explain the effect of the fronted ‘Not until … did the field …’ construction.

_____

_____

3. Paraphrase the ‘the more … the more …’ sentence in plain English.

_____

_____

4. What does ‘insofar as’ contribute that ‘because’ would not?

_____

_____

PART B — **Sentence transformation**

Rewrite each sentence according to the instruction. Preserve the meaning.

1. Original: “The results were checked, and only then was the paper submitted.”
   Task: front with ‘Only after’ + inversion.
   → _____

2. Original: “Because she was exhausted, she declined the invitation.”
   Task: reduce to a participle clause.
   → _____

3. Original: “Although I respect the tradition, I question it.”
   Task: use concessive fronting with ‘Much as’.
   → _____

4. Original: “If the minister had resigned, the crisis might have eased.”
   Task: use inversion (drop ‘if’).
   → _____

5 Original: “We kept the receipts because we might need to claim later.”
Task: rewrite with ‘in case’.
→ _____

PART C — Guided essay paragraph

Write a paragraph of 120–150 words arguing ONE position below. Include at least FOUR different advanced structures from Worksheets 1–2; keep the register formal-academic.

Position A: Borrowing methods across disciplines does more harm than good.
Position B: Cross-disciplinary borrowing is essential to intellectual progress.

My position: ___ A ___ B

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Word count: _____

Score: _____ / 30

Worksheet 4: Synthesis, Data Interpretation & Argumentation

Deploy adverbial subordination to interpret evidence and rebut claims.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Interpreting complex data**

Study the table comparing five national rail networks.

Network	Punctuality (%)	Cost index	Electrified (%)	Satisfaction (/10)
Country A	94	88	72	7.9
Country B	88	61	40	7.1
Country C	97	102	95	8.3
Country D	79	44	28	6.4
Country E	91	70	63	7.6

Write six analytical sentences using the data. Apply the constraints below.

1. [Use a reason clause introduced by 'since' or 'given that'.]

_____

_____

2. [Use a concession clause (although / even though / whereas).]

_____

_____

3. [Use a proportion structure (the … the …).]

_____

_____

4. [Use a fronted negative adverbial with inversion.]

_____

_____

5. [Use a reduced participle clause.]

_____

_____

6. [Acknowledge a limitation of the data ('insofar as …' / 'to the extent that …').]

_____

_____

PART B — **Adversarial comparison (debate format)**

Write a two-sentence counter-argument that concedes part of each claim but challenges it from another angle. Use formal register and at least one adverbial clause per response.

1. Claim: "Country C's network is clearly the best, since it leads on punctuality and satisfaction."
Hint: consider the cost index.

Counter-argument:

_____

2. Claim: “Country D offers the best value because it has the lowest cost index.”
Hint: consider punctuality and electrification.

Counter-argument:

3. Claim: “Electrification drives satisfaction, as the greenest networks score highest.”
Hint: is the correlation perfect across all five?

Counter-argument:

PART C — Extended writing task

Write a discursive essay introduction (180–220 words) on the proposition below. Use at least FIVE distinct adverbial clause structures from this unit (underline them). Maintain a formal-academic register; present the proposition, acknowledge its complexity, and signal your line of argument.

“Public investment in railways is justified even where it is not commercially profitable.”

Word count: _____ Structures underlined: _____ / 5

Score: _____ / 35

ANSWER KEY & TEACHER NOTES

For teacher use only — C1 Level Worksheets

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Worksheet 1 – Gap Fill

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
1	___ though the evidence was compelling	**Strong / Compelling (concessive fronting: adj + though)**
2	Not until the second reading ___	**did (subject–auxiliary inversion)**
3	___ pressed for a decision	**When / Being (reduced or time clause)**
4	___ she should forget	**lest / in case**
5	___ I known the outcome	**Had (inverted conditional)**
6	No sooner ___ the ceasefire announced	**was / had been**
7	___ the objections	**Despite / Notwithstanding (+ noun)**
8	___ the recorder fails	**in case**

Worksheet 1 – Error Analysis

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
1	Hardly I had sat down	**Hardly had I sat down when … — inversion after fronted 'hardly'**
2	Despite it was raining	**Despite the rain / Although it was raining — 'despite' + noun/-ing, not a clause**
3	Walking … the statue impressed me	**Walking through the park, I was impressed by the statue — dangling participle (subject must be 'I')**
4	took an umbrella if it rained	**… in case it rained — precaution, not condition**

Worksheet 2 – Parts B & C

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
B1	inasmuch as	**Inasmuch as the funds were limited, the scope was reduced.**
B2	albeit	**The report was short, albeit thorough.**
B3	lest	**She revised her notes lest she (should) forget.**
B4	provided that	**Provided that you submit the form, we will process your claim.**
C1	albeit it was	**(c) Error — 'albeit' concedes a word/phrase, not a full clause: 'short, albeit informative'**
C2	Inasmuch as …	**(a) Standard formal usage**
C3	Scarcely had we left	**(a) Standard — correct inversion after fronted 'scarcely'**
C4	in case you will come	**(c) Error — no future after 'in case': 'in case you come'**
C5	Granted that …	**(a) Standard concessive premise**

Worksheet 3 – Part A (Passage Analysis)

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
Q1	Five clauses + types	**‘Whenever a discipline borrows a method’ (time); ‘in order that their models might appear rigorous’ (purpose); ‘insofar as human behaviour resists …’ (condition/extent); ‘much as critics welcomed the correction’ (concession); ‘the more precisely one models …, the more one risks …’ (proportion); ‘Granted that no model captures reality whole’ (concession)**
Q2	Not until … did …	**Fronting the negative time phrase forces subject–auxiliary inversion, adding emphasis and delaying the main clause to stress how late the reckoning came.**
Q3	proportion paraphrase	**The more exactly you try to model irrational behaviour, the greater the danger that your model explains any outcome and therefore predicts none.**
Q4	insofar as vs because	**‘Insofar as’ limits the claim to a specific extent (it holds only to the degree that behaviour resists regularity); ‘because’ would assert an unqualified cause.**

Worksheet 3 – Part B (Transformations)

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
1	Only after + inversion	**Only after the results had been checked was the paper submitted.**
2	participle	**Exhausted, she declined the invitation. / Being exhausted, she declined …**
3	Much as	**Much as I respect the tradition, I question it.**
4	inversion	**Had the minister resigned, the crisis might have eased.**
5	in case	**We kept the receipts in case we needed to claim later.**

Worksheets 3–4: Extended & Creative Tasks — Rubric

Criterion	Descriptor	Marks
Structural range	Uses 4–5 distinct advanced structures accurately	0–4
Register	Consistently formal-academic; connectors well chosen	0–3
Argumentation	Clear line of argument; subordination serves the rhetoric	0–3
Accuracy	No errors in inversion, reduction, or punctuation	0–2
Coherence	Ideas logically sequenced; relationships clearly signposted	0–3

Worksheet 4 – Part A (Model sentences)

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
1	reason	**Given that Country C leads on punctuality, its high cost is perhaps unsurprising.**
2	concession	**Although Country D is the cheapest, its punctuality is the weakest of the five.**
3	proportion	**The more electrified a network is, the higher, broadly, its satisfaction score.**
4	inversion	**Not only does Country C lead on punctuality, but it also tops satisfaction.**

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
5	participle	**Ranking highest on satisfaction, Country C nonetheless carries the steepest costs.**
6	limitation	**Insofar as satisfaction reflects price, cross-country comparison remains imperfect.**