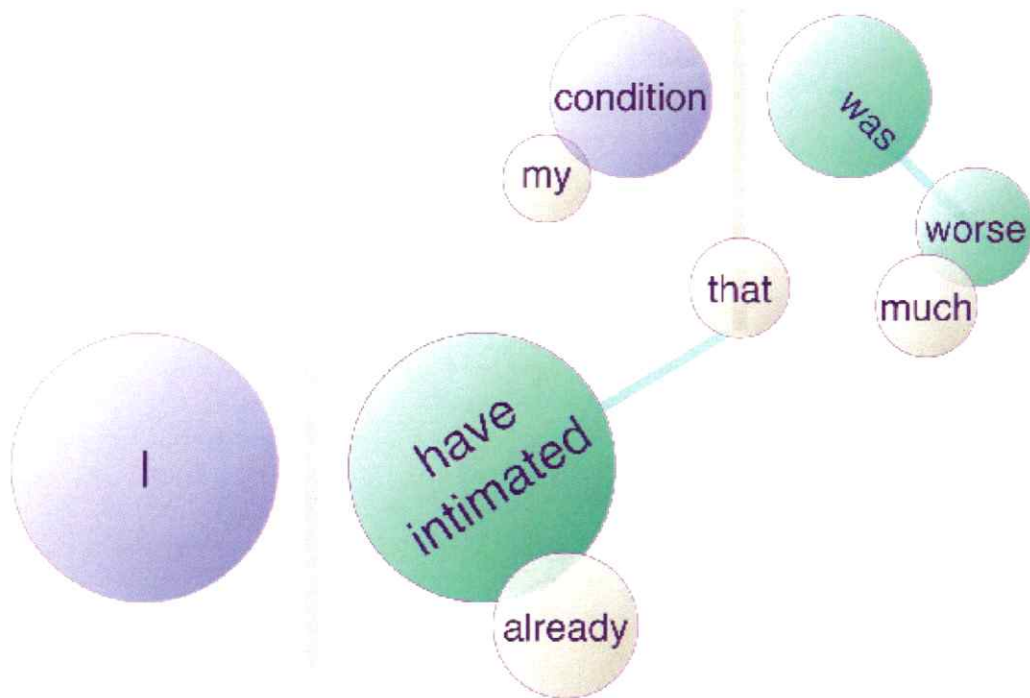


A clause is a noun clause if it is doing a noun job. It is common to see a noun clause acting as a part of sentence. Here is a sentence by the great Frederick Douglass, from his *Narrative*: “I have already intimated that my condition was much worse.”



This time the noun clause is also a direct object, but it is connected to the main clause by the relative pronoun *that*, and it has a linking verb that makes an equation between the subject *condition* and the subject complement *worse*. To intimate is to imply or to hint.

**I have already intimated that my condition was much worse.**

|                                                 |     |       |     |       |      |       |    |      |      |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-------|------|-------|----|------|------|
| pron.                                           | v.  | adv.  | v.  | pron. | adj. | n.    | v. | adv. | adj. |
| subj.                                           | AVP | ----- | AVP | ----- | D.O. | ----- |    |      |      |
|                                                 |     |       |     | subj. | LVP  |       |    | S.C. |      |
| no prepositional, appositive, or verbal phrases |     |       |     |       |      |       |    |      |      |
| -----independent clause-----                    |     |       |     |       |      |       |    |      |      |
| -----dependent clause-----                      |     |       |     |       |      |       |    |      |      |