

Grammar: Result clauses

Overview

Result clauses, also known as **consecutive clauses**, are those in which the first part of the sentence has an effect on the second part of the sentence.

I was so tired that I went to bed early.

They are recognised by a word for 'so ...' in the first part of the sentence. Many of these are linked to the Latin words for 'how ...', known as correlatives. e.g.:

tam, sic, ita	so	adeo	to such an extent
talis	of such a kind	qualis	of what kind
totie(n)s	so often	quotiens	how often
tot	so many	quot	how many
tantus	so great	quantus	how big
tantum	so much, many, to such a degree	quantum	how much, many

In Latin these are formed using *ut* + *subjunctive*.

The negative is formed using *ut non* + *subjunctive* (NOT *ne*).

Alternatives to *ut non*: *ut nemo*, *ut nullus*, *ut numquam* etc.

The tenses of the subjunctive follow the sequence of tenses. A future subjunctive is created for future results, made up of a future participle and the present subjunctive of *sum*. There is, however, exception: the perfect subjunctive can be used after a secondary verb when either the result was not continuous, and was completed, or the result did definitely follow.

Notes:

- there does not have to be a demonstrative trigger word preceding the subordinate clause.
- result clauses can be introduced by *qui* rather than *ut*.

Related uses of the relative and subjunctive

After est / sunt

- sunt ei qui credant
there are those who believe him

To mark a characteristic, after another noun / pronoun etc.

This can work:

as a statement with a pronoun: is est qui librum scribet **he is the sort of man who would write a book**

as a statement with a noun: Cicero est qui librum scribet **Cicero is the sort of man who would write a book**

-as a negative statement: nemo est qui librum scribet **There is nobody who would / will write a book**

as a question: quis est qui librum scribet? **Who is there who would write a book?**

with a precise antecedent adjective: solus est qui librum scribet **He alone is the kind of man who would write a book**

As a simple replacement

nemo est tam stultus qui id non intellegat
Nobody is so stupid that he would not understand this

Examples drawn from Cicero

1. Sed annos septuaginta natus, tot enim vixit Ennius, ita ferebat

duo quae maxima putantur onera, paupertatem et senectutem,
ut eis paene delectaris videretur. *De Senectute 14*

2. nemo enim est tam senex qui se annum non putet posse vivere.

De Senectute 24

3. at ita multi sunt imbecilli senes ut nullum office auto omnino
vitae munus exsequi possint.

De Senectute 35

4. Tum denique interficiere, cum iam nemo tam improbus, tam
perditus, tam tui similis inveniri poterit, qui id non iure factum
esse fateatur.

In Catilinam 1.II.5

5. Sic enim iam tecum loquar, non ut odio permotus esse videar,
quo debeo, sed ut misericordia, quae tibi nulla debetur.

In Catilinam 1.VII.16