

Episode 040 – Grammar

1. Final clauses with "damit"

Subordinate clauses are dependent upon main clauses or other dependent clauses. They cannot stand on their own. Often they begin with words (subordinating conjunctions, relative pronouns or question words) that connect them to the main or independent clause.

"damit" (so that) is a conjunction that introduces a final clause. In other words, the clause reveals a purpose, intention or goal behind the action of the independent clause it links to. Clauses with "damit" answer the question ("Wozu?") (for what reason/purpose).

Examples:

Wir demonstrieren gegen das Experiment. – Zu welchem Zweck?

Wir demonstrieren gegen das Experiment, **damit** die Welt eine Zukunft hat.

(= We are protesting. Our goal is to ensure that the world has a future.)

Clauses with "damit" usually follow the independent clause and are separated from it by a comma.

The conjugated verb goes to the end of a final clause.

Example:

Ich bin hier, **damit** ich mehr über das Experiment **erfahre**.