

# PREDICATIVE CLAUSES

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- a) Introduced by the conjunctions  
**As if, as though**

When we find the link verbs *to be, to feel, to look, to seem, etc.* in the principal clause.

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- If the action of the subordinate clause is simultaneous with that of the principal clause the PAST SUBJUNCTIVE of the verb *to be* is used
  - With other verbs ***THE PAST SIMPLE*** of the Indicative Mood is used.

- If the action of the subordinate clause is prior to that of the principal clause ***the PAST PERFECT*** is used.

# EXAMPLES

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1. I feel as if we were back seven years, John.
2. ...now I feel as if you had never been away.
3. He looked as if he knew it to be true.
4. The house looked as though it had been deserted for weeks.

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- b) when the subject of the principal clause is expressed by an abstract noun such as **wish, suggestion, aim, idea, etc.**
  - In this case the analytical subjunctive with the mood auxiliary **SHOULD** is used.

# EXAMPLES

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1. Mary's wish was *that* ...our mother *should come and live* with her.
2. One of the conditions was *that* I *should go* abroad.