

## COMPLEX SENTENCES

Complex sentences are sentences that have more than 1 clause.

**The main clause:** The one that gives the main sense of what is said.

**Subordinated clause:** It depends on the main clause to have sense.

*Peter likes pasta.*

A simple sentence. We only have one clause (Only 1 subject and 1 complement)

*Peter likes the pasta that his mother cooks.*

A complex sentence. We have 2 clauses, one of them is a subordinate clause (2 subjects and 2 complements). The subordinated clause is *that his mother cooks* because it depends on the sentence *Peter likes the pasta*. Without the main clause, the sense of this sentence is not clearly perceived or understood.

**Kinds of subordinated clauses:**

**1. Adjective Subordinated Clauses (Relative clauses)**

**2. Adverbial Clauses**

**3. Noun clauses**

### **I. Adjective Subordinated Clauses (Relative clauses)**

They are clauses introduced by relative pronouns (although the relative pronouns can be omitted sometimes).

*My girlfriend is the woman that/who is wearing the red dress.*

*It's one of the few countries where people drive on the left.*

**REMEMBER:** Relative pronouns can have different forms.

| Relative pronoun | Use  |
|------------------|--|
| Who/ Whom        | People   |
| Which            | Things   |
| That             | People and things (Informal and not used in non-restrictive/non-defining relative clauses) |
| Where            | Places   |
| When             | Time   |
| Whose            | Possession   |

#### **a. Restrictive/Defining relative clauses**

They give detailed information defining a general term or expression. This information is essential and cannot be eliminated because the meaning of the whole sentence will be affected. Defining relative clauses are not put in commas.

*The man who/that called me on Monday is away.*

*A seaman is someone who works on a ship.*

*Do you remember the place where we met?*

#### **b. Non-restrictive/Restrictive relative clauses**

They give extra detailed information. This information is not essential and can be eliminated without affecting the meaning of the entire sentence. Non-Restrictive/Non-Defining relative clauses are put between commas.

*Mr. Steward, who called me on Monday, is away.  
That seaman, who has worked on that ship for over twenty years, has many tattoos.  
Paris, where we met, will be ours forever my dear Lisa. (From Casablanca)*

In reality, Non-Restrictive/Non-Defining relative clauses are appositives (Information that is not essential and that refers to the subject).

### **Elimination of the relative pronouns**

Relative pronouns can be eliminated only when it refers to the object of the sentence. Let's compare these sentences.

*The doctor who/that came is my cousin.  
The tree which/that is being planted is a sycamore.*

In these two sentences it is impossible to eliminate the relative pronoun because it refers to the subjects (The doctor and the tree)

*The doctor whom/that **they** called is my cousin.  
The tree which/that **Sarah** planted is a sycamore.*

Since “they” and “Sarah” are the agents of the action and “the doctor” and “the tree” are the objects, we can eliminate the relative pronouns and have sentences like these:

*The doctor **they** called is my cousin.  
The tree **Sarah** planted is a sycamore.*

### **Relative pronouns as possessives:**

*The doctor whose office is next door is my cousin.  
He's a man whose opinion I respect.*

**Remember:** You cannot eliminate “Whose”.

## **II. Adverbial clauses**

They are subordinated clauses that function as adverbs. They have a subject (implicit or explicit) and a predicate, and they modify a verb. They are introduced by subordinators (conjunctive subordinators).

### *Examples:*

| <i>Independent Clause</i> | <i>Subordinated Clause (Adverbial)</i> |
|---------------------------|--|
| <i>I saw Maurice</i>      | <i>when I went to the store.</i>       |
| <i>He sat quietly</i>     | <i>in order to appear polite.</i>      |

## **KINDS OF ADVERBIAL CLAUSES**

1. **TIME:** The adverb can go in any position.

**Adverbs of time:** *When, where\*, whenever, while, since, after, before, until, once, as soon as, now that, by the time that....*

**Examples:**

*Call me as soon as you arrive.*

*Where people were concerned, his threshold of boredom was low.*

2. **PLACE:**

**Adverbs of place:** *Where\*, Wherever.*

**Examples:**

*You can go wherever you want.*

*New York is where the action is.*

(\*= It is not always an adverb of place. E.g. *Where people were concerned, his threshold of boredom was low*).

**NOTE: Some of these are tricky and recognizing their category can be difficult sometimes.**

3. **MANNER:** They express the way you do an action.

**Adverbs of manner:** *As, as if, as though.*

**Examples:**

*You're behaving as if you were a child.*

*He did it as he was told too.*

*She looked at me as though she were angry.*

*It sounds as though you had a good time.*

4. **CAUSE:** They explain the reason why you do something.

**Adverbs of cause:** *Because, as, since\*, due to (the fact that), in view of, now that, because of the fact that...*

**Examples:**

*We thought that, since we were in the area, we'd stop by and see them.*

*Due to the fact that they did not read English, the prisoners were unaware of what they were signing.*

(\*= It could be used to say "Because of" and "From a period of time")

5. **PURPOSE:**

**Adverbs of purpose:** *So that, in order that (more formal).* They require the use of modal/auxiliary verbs: CAN – COULD, WILL – WOULD (Only these. No more).

**Examples:**

e.g. *She practices everyday so she CAN/WILL improve.*

*We exercise in order that we can be healthy.*

6. **RESULT:**

**Adverbs of result:** *So...that, such...that.*

**Examples:**

*She was so irritating that everybody left. (With an adjective)*  
*The teacher talked so fast that we didn't understand. (With an adverb)*  
*It was such a terrible accident that everybody died. (With a noun phrase)*  
*They are so direct that make everybody feel embarrassed. (With an adjective)*

**7. CONDITION:**

**Adverbs of condition:** *If, whether, as if, as though, unless, provided that, on condition that (=Only if), in the event that, given that.*

**Examples:**

*It was surprising the government was re-elected, **given that they had raised taxes so much.***  
*I won't lend you any money, **unless you pay me before.***  
*I'll give you a bonus **on condition that you sell more this month.***

**8. CONTRAST:** There are two groups.

**A. Concessive:** Used to express strong contrast. *though, although, even though, albeit, while, and even if, whatever, whereas, in spite of (the fact that), despite.*

**Examples:**

*While Paul is serious and responsible, his brother is a playboy.*  
*Although I liked the car, I didn't buy it.*  
*He finally agreed, albeit reluctantly, to help us.*

**B. Adversative:** Used to express normal contrast. *But and yet. (still, however, albeit (=although), although, and others are also sometimes adversative.)*

**Examples:**

*His mother won't be there, but his father might.*  
*It's a small car, yet it's surprisingly spacious.*

**III. NOUN CLAUSES**

They are subordinated clauses that can have all the functions of a noun in any position of the sentence.

- *What she said made me furious. (Subject)*
- *How he gets money is none of your business. (Subject)*
- *Tell me exactly what he said. (Direct Object)*
- *Do you know if he will get the job. (Direct Object: "If" is not only used in conditional sentences)*
- *We gave whoever wanted one an application form. (Indirect Object)*
- *You call him whatever you want. (Object Complement)*
- *He asked for what he needed and left. (Object of a preposition)*

- His suggestion, that we started immediately, was accepted. (Appositive)
  - **Introductory words for Noun Clauses:** You can use: **Wh-** words, **Wh-** ever, **That** and **If**

*That it was false is now an established case. (Subject of the sentence)*

*My opinion **that we should start the project right now.** (Subject complement)*

*I told Mr. Pérez (**that**) **I would be a little bit late.** (Direct Object) (Remember that the omission of “that” can occur when “that” refers to the direct object)*

- **Noun clauses and the subjunctive:** Noun clauses require a **subjunctive** when:

**1- We have sentences with WISH:**

*I wish (that) I knew how to paint.*  
*I wish (that) I had learned to paint at school.*

**2- After verbs/adjectives that express urgency/necessity, etc.:**

*Mr. Sánchez proposes that we meet more often.*  
*It's essential that everybody be on time for the exam.*

## CONDITIONALS

There are four conditionals in English: *zero, first, second and third conditional.*

Conditionals are formed by a **Main Clause** (Independent sentence) and the **If Clause** (Subordinated part of the sentence). The tense of each clause is explained in each conditional.

Remember, when you start the sentence with the “IF CLAUSE”, you **MUST** separate this part from the “MAIN CLAUSE” by using a comma. But, if you start your sentence with the “MAIN CLAUSE” it is optional to use a comma to separate it from the “IF CLAUSE”.

**Examples:**

*If you like, you can stay for the weekend.* (Mandatory use of a comma)  
*You can stay for the weekend (,) if you like.* (Optional use of a comma)

- **Zero Conditional:** It is used to talk about something that is always true, or that was always true in the past. You will see that most text books do not include this one (But it does not mean it is not important).

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>“If Clause”:</b> Present            | <b>“Main clause”:</b> Present |
| <i>If you <b>mix</b> blue and red,</i> | <i>you <b>get</b> purple.</i> |

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>“If Clause”:</b> Past | <b>“Main clause”:</b> Past |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <i>If I asked her to come with us,</i> | <i>she always said no.</i> |
|--|----------------------------|

- **First Conditional:** It is used to talk about the consequence of a possible action.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>“If Clause”:</b> Present                                     | <b>“Main clause”:</b> Future               |
| <i>If I write my essay this afternoon,</i>                      | <i>I will have time to go out tonight.</i> |
| (= It is still morning and it is quite possible that I do this) |  |

- **Second Conditional:** It is used to talk about the consequences of a hypothetical/Imaginary situation.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>“If Clause”:</b> Past   | <b>“Main clause”:</b> Would/Might + infinitive |
| <i>If I wrote my essay this afternoon,</i>                                 | <i>I would have time to go out tonight.</i>    |
| (= It is still morning, but I think it is less likely that I will do this) |  |

- **Third Conditional:** It is used to talk about the possible consequence of an action that **did not happen**. It is seen as regrets or as a piece of advice that was not taken into account in the past.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>“If Clause”:</b> Past Perfect   | <b>“Main clause”:</b><br>Would/Might/Could/Should +<br><b>HAVE + Past Participle</b> |
| <i>If I had written my essay this afternoon,</i>   | <i>I would have had time to go out tonight.</i>                                      |
| (= It is now evening, and I haven’t written my essay: It is now impossible for me to go out) |  |

- **SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION OF CONDITIONALS:** In this part, you will see the changes in the meaning that each conditional has.

1- **Factual Conditional Sentences:** They refer to facts or things that we always see as true.

**A. General Factual Conditional Sentences: (Zero Conditional)**

In scientific writing. Combination **present-present**. They express something that is always true and that never changes.

*If the Earth passes between the Sun and the Moon, there is an eclipse of moon.*

*If you add nine to ten, you get nineteen.*

**B. Habitual Factual Conditional Sentences: (Zero Conditional)**

This is not scientific but everyday conversations. We talk about something that never changes, but that in this case is a habit. Combinations: **Present-Present** or **Past-Past**.

*If I called her, she never answered the phone.*

*If Andrés **needs** some money, he **asks** it to his parents.*

**C. Implicit Inference Factual Conditional Sentences: (Zero Conditional)**

In these sentences, the person makes a connection with the time/weather. Many possible combinations but with the same tense **Present-Present, Past-Past, Present Continuous-Present Continuous, etc.**

*If someone built these ancient roads, it was Lengerke.  
If it is snowing, the children are building snowmen.  
If it is July 20<sup>th</sup> in Colombia, we celebrate the Independence Day.*

**D. Explicit Inference Factual Conditional Sentences: (An adaptation of Zero Conditional)**

In these sentences, there is a connection between something and time, a career, profession, subject, etc. You have to use **modals of logical probability**.

*If there is an excellent Colombian writer, it must be Fernando Vallejo.  
If a woman is really good at jazz, it should be Ella Fitzgerald.*

**NOTES ON FACTUAL CONDITIONAL SENTENCES:**

- In cases A and B we can substitute “If” by using “When/Whenever” but only in spoken language.
- Case C is also used in conversations.
- We don’t use “When/Whenever” with cases C and D.
- Here we change some implicit for explicit to express the same meaning:  
*If it is snowing, the children should be building snowmen.*
- Here we change implicit for explicit to emphasize on the time:  
*If someone built these ancient roads, it must have been Lengerke.*

**2- Future (Predictive) Conditionals:**

**A.** There is a future indication of time. They function as predictions.

*If I save some money, I’m going to buy a new house.  
If Martha says “yes”, we’ll go dancing tonight.*

**B.** Sometimes, it doesn’t express a real prediction or possibility. You can use it to express a promise that can be or not real. But if we use **might/should/etc.** the promise becomes weaker.

*If you make your bed, I’m going to give you a chocolate bar. (It is true)  
If you make your bed, I might give you a chocolate bar. (=Maybe)*

**C.** To weaken the clauses is possible by using: **should/ happen to/ should happen to**

*If it should/ happen to/ should happen to rain, I'll stay home. (=Maybe you don't want to go out or you anticipate the rain)*

### 3- Imaginative Conditionals:

**A. Hypothetical:** They express something that is unlike but is still possible.

*If I won the lottery, I would travel around the world.*

*If he trained harder, he would run faster.*

**B. Counter Factual:** Something that is opposite to the fact. A strong negation (Something that is not possible).

*If Roosevelt were alive, he would solve American economic crisis.*

*If you were Cristiano Ronaldo, you would be the best-paid soccer player.*

- **SYNTACTIC DETAILS:**

**A. Subject-Auxiliary inversion:** It also applies to conditionals.

*If I had known that, I wouldn't have said anything*

OR

*Had I known that, I wouldn't have said anything.*

*If the guests should arrive early, no one will be here to greet them.*

OR

*Should the guests arrive early, no one will be here to greet them.*

**B. Conditional Clauses (Pro-forms):** Proforms are words, phrases or sentences that can substitute the conditional.

*Would you like to help to cook the dinner?*

*If so, I need two people.*

*If not, it doesn't matter.*

**C. Ordering of Clauses:** The "If Clause" is normally at the beginning of the sentence, but sometime it could be after the main clause. Here there are some cases in which we CAN'T do this change of placement.

**1- Sarcastic speech:**

*If he is a painter, I'm da Vinci*

**2- Tautologisms:** A tautology is a statement in which you say the same thing twice in different words, when this is unnecessary, for example 'They spoke in turn, one after the other.'

*If you have finished, then you have finished.*

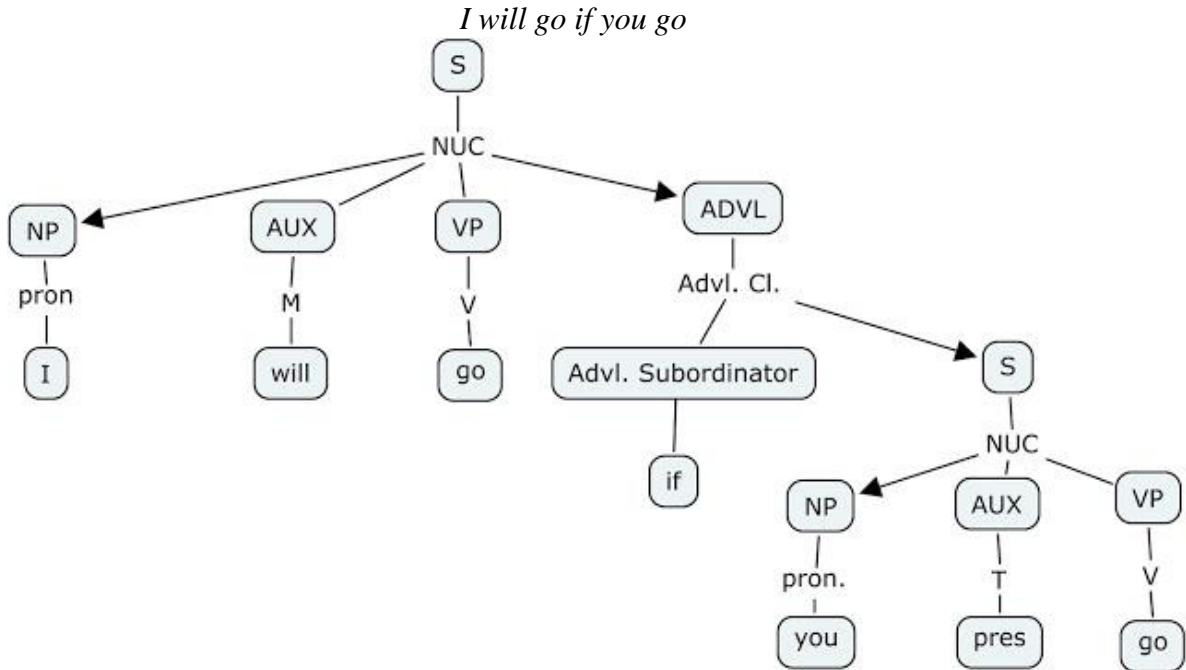
**3- Strong deductions:**

*A: I had to read those copies.*

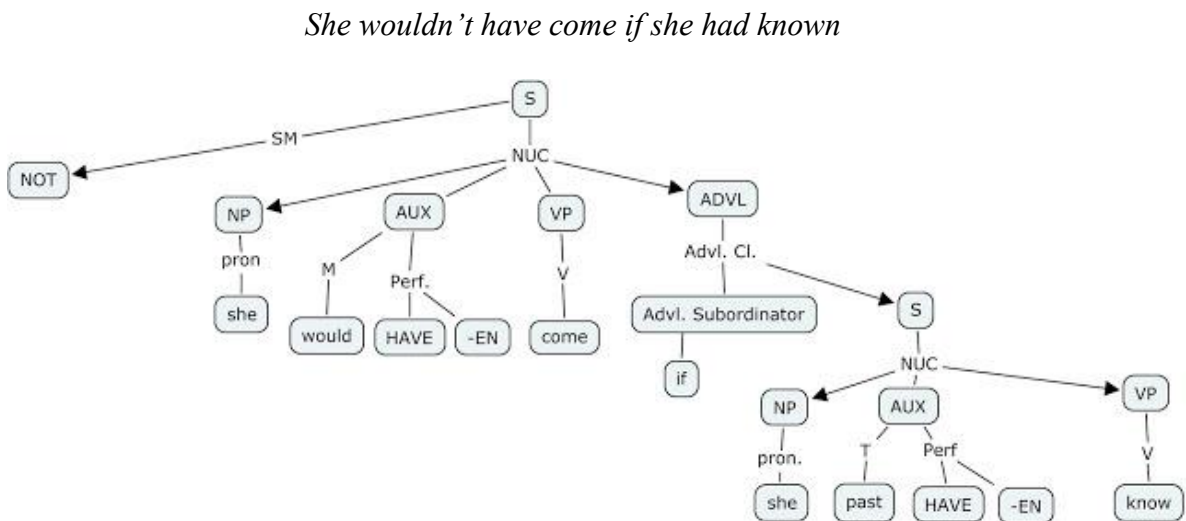
*B: Well, if you read those copies, you got bored to tears.*



## TREES

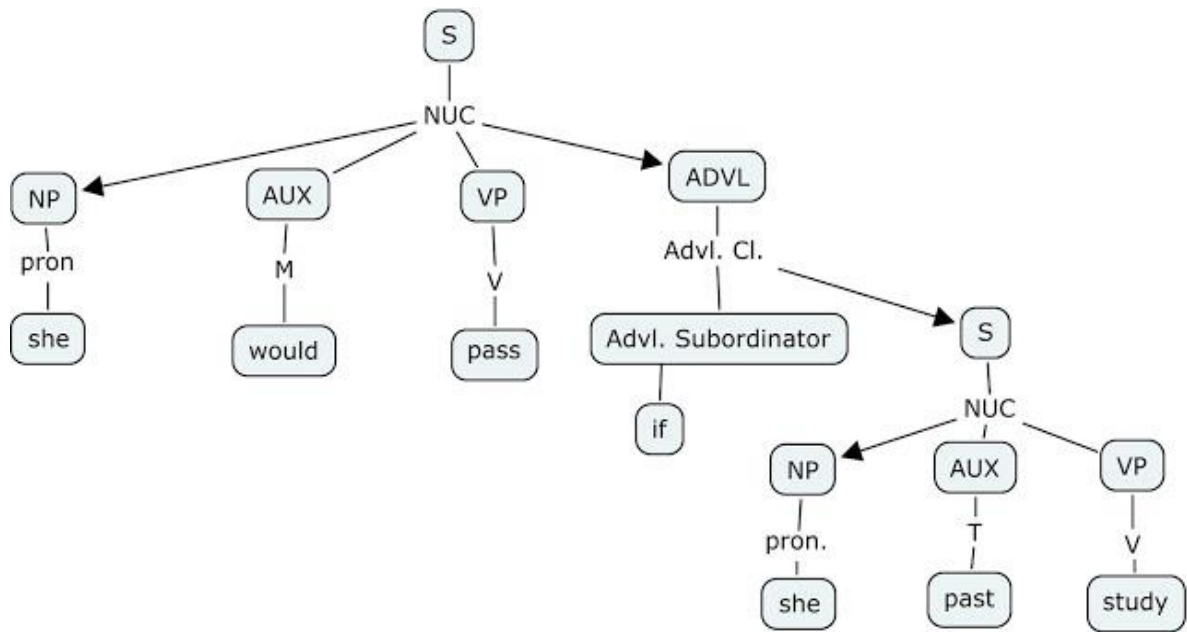


OB: I will go if you present go  
 AA ( 1x): I will go if you present + go  
 SVA/MR: I will go if you go.



OB: NOT she would HAVE -EN come if she past HAVE -EN know  
 NOT placement: she would NOT HAVE -EN come if she past HAVE -EN know  
 NOT contraction: she would<sub>+</sub>N'T HAVE -EN come if she past HAVE -EN know  
 AA ( 3x): she would<sub>+</sub>N'T HAVE -EN + come if she past + HAVE -EN + know  
 SVA/MR: She wouldn't have come if she had known.

*If she studied, she would pass.*

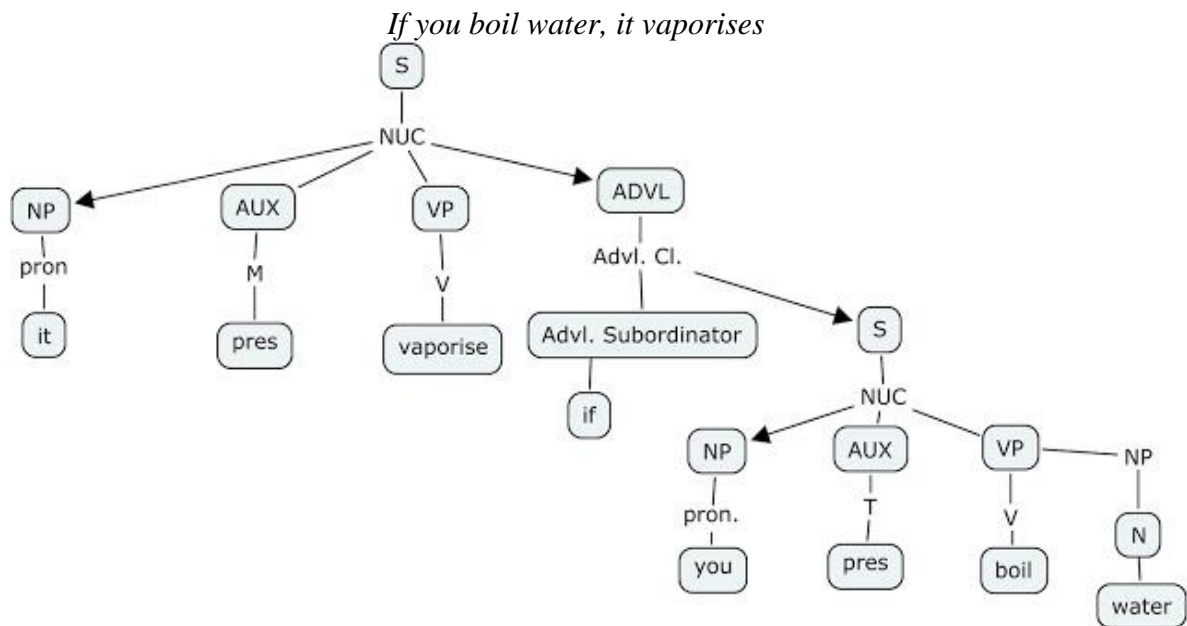


OB: she would pass if she past study

**ADVERBIAL FRONTING:** If she past study she would pass

AA (1x): If she past + study she would pass

SVA/MR: If she studied, she would pass.



OB: it present vaporise if you present boil water

**ADVL FRONTING:** If you present boil water it present vaporise

AA (2x): If you present + boil water it present + vaporise

SVA/MR: If you boil water, it vaporises.