Clauses exercise

Find out the principal clause and subordinate clause or clauses in the following sentences.

- 1. James spoke as though he were a born orator.
- 2. They felt that the farmer must be put to death.
- 3. When at last he returned to the village, the people told him that his mother had died.
- 4. The newspaper will tell us tomorrow what the world does today.
- 5. The few books that were produced in the Middle Ages were written by hand.
- 6. When the world was young, artists drew their pictures on stone.
- 7. I could not tolerate what he said because it was quite insulting.

Answers

- 1. Principal clause James spoke; subordinate adverb clause as though he were a born actor
- 2. Principal clause they felt; subordinate noun clause that the farmer must be put to death
- 3. Principal clause the people told him; subordinate adverb clause when at last he returned to the village; subordinate noun clause that his mother had died
- 4. Principal clause the newspaper will tell us tomorrow; subordinate noun clause what the world does today
- 5. Principal clause the few books were written by hand; subordinate adjective clause that were produced in the Middle Ages
- 6. Principal clause artists drew their pictures on stone; subordinate adverb clause when the world was young
- 7. Principal clause I could not tolerate; subordinate noun clause what he said; subordinate adverb

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clause - because it was very insulting