**Noun Clauses with Question Words and if / whether**

A Noun Clause: A clause (Subject + Verb …) that functions as a noun. It can be the subject and the object of a sentence.

What I said upset her.  
He didn’t understand what I said.  
(A noun clause as subject)  
(A noun clause as object)

[In a noun clause, the subject should be before the verb.]

A Question Word (when, what, how, etc.) as the combining word.

What happened?  
I don’t know the answer.  
I don’t know what happened.  
(subject) (verb)

Where is she from?  
I wonder that.  
I wonder where she is from.  
(subject) (verb)

If / whether as the combining word. (Yes / No questions)

Is Mary rich?  
I wonder that.  
I wonder if Mary is rich.  
(subject) (verb)

Will he come?  
I don’t know the answer.  
I don’t know whether he will come or not.  
I don’t know whether or not he will come.  
(subject) (verb)
Infinitives
with Question Words and Whether

With a Question Word

I wonder *how to do* this homework.

We don’t know *where to go* next.

With *Whether*

She can’t decide *whether to stay or go*.

Tom didn’t know *whether to answer the phone or not*. 
Noun Clauses with *that* as their combining word

*That* + Subject + Verb

She is very smart.
I know this fact. → I know *(that)* she is very smart.

We think *(that)* his lecture is very interesting.

*That* . . . is . . . *It* is . . . *that* . . .

He doesn’t know the rule
It is obvious. → *That* he doesn’t know the rule is obvious.
*It* is obvious *that* he doesn’t know the rule.

*That* there are a lot of good students in this school is a fact.
*It* is a fact *that* there are a lot of good students in this school.

The fact *that* there are a lot of diligent students in this school makes me happy.
(noun clause)