

A result clause is introduced by *ut* (“<so> that”) or *ut nōn* (“<so> that not”), and always has a **subjunctive** verb. The tense of the subjunctive does not depend on the tense of the main clause, but on the actual time when the result occurred. The present subjunctive is used for a result in the present (even coming out of a past action), imperfect subjunctive for a prolonged result in the past, perfect subjunctive for completed result in the past. Look at the above examples again, paying attention to what tense is used in each result clause.



Reconstruction of the triquetrum, an astronomical instrument, first described by Ptolemy (second century CE) and also discussed by Copernicus in Book IV of *Dē revolūtiōnibus orbium caelestium*. Two intersecting arms hinged to a vertical post enable one to calculate the angular elevation of a heavenly body observed through a sight mounted on the upper arm.



STUDY TIP

Result and purpose clauses have similar components but they are two different types of propositions. Consider the sentence: “I fell so badly that I broke my leg.” The subordinate clause here expresses result but no purpose. Also, the negative for the purpose clause is *nē*, while the negative for the result clause is *ut nōn*.

Finally, purpose clauses have present or imperfect subjunctives according to the tense of the main clause, while the result clauses have present, imperfect, or perfect subjunctives according to the time when the result occurred.

If you are still not sure about recognizing result clauses, remember that result clauses answer the question “What happened?,” while purpose clauses answer the question “Why?”



The 1973 stamp with a portrait and images of space stations commemorates the 500th anniversary of Copernicus’s birth. The African nation of Liberia was founded by freed slaves from the United States who established a republic in 1847. Following a brutal civil war, Ellen Johnsonn Sirleaf was democratically elected president in 2005.