Embedded clauses
It’s raining.

I think [(that) it’s raining].
It’s raining.

I think [(that) it’s raining].
I wonder [whether/if it’s raining].
[If it’s raining], we’ll stay inside.
[Although it’s raining now], it’ll clear up later.
[Unless it rains], we’ll go on a picnic.

...
It’s raining.

Bill said [that it’s raining].
It’s raining.

Bill said [that it’s raining].

Mary knows [that Bill said [that it’s raining]].
It’s raining.

Bill said [that it’s raining].

Mary knows [that Bill said [that it’s raining]].

I wonder [whether Mary knows [that Bill said [that it’s raining]]]...
infinitives

I decided to leave.

I persuaded Bill to leave.
infinitives

I decided to leave.
   I decided *that I should leave*.

I persuaded Bill to leave.
   I persuaded Bill *that he should leave*. 
infinitives

I decided to leave.
   I decided that I should leave.

I persuaded Bill to leave.
   I persuaded Bill that he should leave.

[To leave] would be smart.
two aspects of word order variation…

remember German V2?

Die Frau sah gestern den Mann
the woman saw yesterday the man
'The woman saw the man yesterday'

Den Mann sah die Frau gestern
the man saw the woman yesterday
'The man, the woman saw yesterday'

Gestern sah die Frau den Mann
yesterday saw the woman the man
'Yesterday, the woman saw the man'
two aspects of word order variation…

remember German V2?

Die Frau       sah       gestern    den Mann  
the woman       saw       yesterday    the man  
'The woman saw the man yesterday'

Den Mann       sah      die Frau    gestern
the man        saw       the woman    yesterday
'The man, the woman saw yesterday'

Gestern      sah        die Frau  den Mann
yesterday     saw       the woman    the man
'Yesterday, the woman saw the man'

This only happens \emph{when there’s no complementizer}. 
two aspects of word order variation…

remember German V2?

Die Frau sah gestern den Mann

the woman saw yesterday the man

'The woman saw the man yesterday'

Ich glaube, dass [ die Frau den Mann gestern sah.]

I believe that the woman the man yesterday saw

‘I believe that the woman saw the man yesterday’

If there’s an overt complementizer (**dass**), then the German verb is at the end of the clause.
word order again: clauses often extrapose, as we’ve seen.

Taro thinks [**that natto is tasty**]

Taroo-kun-wa [nattoo-ga oisii **to**] omou. (Japanese)

CheleTa Suneche [je or baba aSbe] (Bangla)

the.boy heard that his father will.come

CheleTa [or baba aSbe **bole**] Suneche.

Bangla is mostly SOV…

very common for embedded clauses

KriSno hEmleT poRlo. to be ‘on the edge’

Krishna Hamlet read of the main clause.

‘Krishna read Hamlet’
Clauses and case/agreement:

For some kinds of phenomena, clauses act like objects…

Udaltzain-ek ukatu dute [Rubioren bizkartzain zir-ela] (Basque) policemen-ERG deny AUX Rubio’s bodyguards were-that] ‘The town policemen have denied that they were Rubio’s bodyguards’

\[ \rightarrow \text{ERG case on subject, suggesting that the verb is transitive.} \]
Clauses and case/agreement:

For some kinds of phenomena, clauses act like objects…

…there may even be cases where they can control agreement:

[That Nixon will be reelected] and [that he will be impeached] seem about equally likely.
Restrictions on their distribution:

I see **the weather report**.
I see that it’s raining.
Restrictions on their distribution:

I see **the weather report**.
I see **that it’s raining**.

They’re talking about **the weather report**.
*They’re talking about **that it’s raining**.*
Restrictions on their distribution:
can they be subjects?

[That it’s raining] is obvious.
[For the Red Sox to lose this game] would be disappointing.
Restrictions on their distribution: can they be subjects?

[That it’s raining] is obvious.
[For the Red Sox to lose this game] would be disappointing.

[The rain] is obvious.
[A loss] would be disappointing.
Restrictions on their distribution: can they be subjects?

[That it’s raining] is obvious. [For the Red Sox to lose this game] would be disappointing.

[The rain] is obvious. [A loss] would be disappointing.

Is [the rain] obvious? Would [a loss] be disappointing?
Restrictions on their distribution:
can they be subjects?

[That it’s raining] is obvious.
[For the Red Sox to lose this game] would be disappointing.

[The rain] is obvious.
[A loss] would be disappointing.

Is [the rain] obvious?
Would [a loss] be disappointing?

*Is [that it’s raining] obvious?
*Would [for the Red Sox to lose this game] be disappointing?
Indexical shift

Who did John say [that he saw?]

Tursun [men kim-ni kördim] didi? (Uyghur)

Tursun I who-ACC saw said ‘Who did Tursun say that he saw?’