There are four types of Noun Clauses (Complements):

Two non-finite (no tense) clause types, governed by predicate:

- The **Infinitive** clause (for-to), which marks its subject with for and its verb with to, both often deleted by rule. Subjects may also be deleted (and inferred) by rule. Infinitives can be Direct Object (Noun) Clauses …

1. Bill wants (for Bill) to win the election.  
   Bill is subject of both want and win.

2. Bill wants (?for) Mike to win the election.  
   Mike is object of want and subject of win

3. Bill promised (*for) Mary to fix her car.  
   Bill is subject of both promise and fix

… or they can be Subject Clauses (though they’re rarely comfortable and are frequently Extraposed)

4. *(For) Bill to win the election would be a surprise.  
   It would be a surprise for Bill to…

5. (For indef) To achieve world peace is one thing.  
   It is one thing to…

- The **Gerund** clause (poss-ing), which suffixes subject with possessive, the enclitic {-Z₂}, and its verb with -ing, often confused with other uses of –ing. Subjects may also be deleted by rule, and are frequently indefinite. There is a common ACC-ing variant that skips the possessive. Gerund clauses are more likely to be Subject clauses than infinitives are….

6. indef Playing loud music is unpopular here.
7. Bill’s playing loud music has become an issue for his neighbors.

8. (His) playing loud music has become an issue for Bill’s neighbors.  
   (His) = his can be deleted.

… but they can be Object Clauses, too (with the right predicate).

9. Bill enjoys (Bill(‘s)) playing the piano.
10. Bill enjoys Mary(‘s) playing the piano.

… and two finite (inflected with tense) clause types:

- The **that-Clause**, which is marked by initial that and is otherwise a normal tensed clause. That is usually deleted unless it’s necessary to avoid ambiguity. That-clauses are much more likely to be object clauses than subject clauses; they’re usually quite awkward and are usually extraposed.

11. Bill thinks (that) Mary plays the piano.
12. I know (that) Mary doesn’t play the piano.

13. *(That) he move immediately is their second demand. *(That) = that can’t be deleted.
14. *(That) no Lady Mondegreen ever existed is irrelevant.  
   It is irrelevant that …

- The **Embedded Question**, which is marked by initial wh-word and is tensed like a main clause question, but does not invert its Subject-Verb order. Embedded questions are not as common as the other types because they are mostly restricted to predicates that refer to questions. These predicates are more likely to use such questions as object clauses than as subject clauses.

15. Bill asked whether/if Mary plays the piano.  
   Whether is the wh-word for a yes/no question.
16. I don’t know why Bill cares.

17. Whether Lady Mondegreen ever existed is irrelevant.  
   It is irrelevant whether …
18. Whether Mondegreen is eponymous or not is a tricky question  
   It is a tricky question whether …