



❖ There are two kinds of clauses:



1. **Main Clause:** is the most important clause. It can stand by itself and make complete sense. (Simple Sentence)



2. **Subordinate Clause:** is dependent on the main clause for its meaning. (Does not make sense on its own.)

❖ Sometimes the subordinate clause is introduced by the pronoun **Who** (when referring to a person) or the pronoun **Which** (when referring to an animal or thing).


Example

Sue bought a new dress **when she went shopping.**

Main Clause

Subordinate Clause

## PHRASE VS. CLAUSE

CLAUSE	PHRASE
<p>A <b>clause</b> is a part of the sentence that contains a verb. A typical clause consists of a subject and a predicate, the latter typically a verb phrase, a verb with any objects and other modifiers.</p> <p><b>For example:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• He must stop laughing.</li><li>• They have done the job.</li><li>• Tom likes the meat.</li><li>• We like the music that you brought.</li></ul> 	<p>A <b>phrase</b> is a small group of words that adds meaning to a sentence. A phrase is not a sentence because it is not a complete idea with a subject, verb and a predicate.</p> <p><b>For example:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The information age (Noun phrase)</li><li>• Earnest in her desire (Adjective phrase)</li><li>• Much too quickly to see clearly (Adverb phrase)</li><li>• After a very long walk (Prepositional phrase)</li></ul>



### Exercises:

1. In each sentence, circle the main clause. Underline the subordinate clause. Write the word that begins each subordinate clause.

a. Cleopatra lived in ancient Egypt, which she ruled.

\_\_\_\_\_ Which \_\_\_\_\_

b. She ruled with her brother until she seized the throne.

\_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_

c. She regained her throne because Julius Caesar helped her.

\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

d. Mark Antony ruled Rome after Caesar died.

\_\_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_\_

2. In each sentence, circle the subject and underline the predicate.

a. Amelia Bloomer did not invent bloomers.

b. Bloomers were the first slacks for women.

c. These pants were very loose and comfortable.

d. Elizabeth Smith Miller became tired of long skirts and petticoats.

3. Write phrase or clause to identify each group of words.

a. we enjoy living in this town. Clause (Independent clause)

b. near friendly, helpful neighbors. \_\_\_\_\_ phrase \_\_\_\_\_

c. from the nearest ocean. \_\_\_\_\_ phrase \_\_\_\_\_

d. we built a cabin. Clause (Independent clause)

e. although my aunt does not have a medical degree. **Clause (dependent clause)**  
**Subordinate clause**