



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.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

d. Mark Antony ruled Rome after Caesar died.

\_\_\_\_\_

**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. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

d. we built a cabin. \_\_\_\_\_

e. although my aunt does not have a medical degree. \_\_\_\_\_

## CLAUSES and Sentences



Objectives: Identify the main clause and other clauses (subordinate clauses) in a complex sentence



1. A simple **sentence** is a group of words which makes complete sense on its own.

- A simple sentence has two parts:  
*Subject:* the person or thing which the sentence is about  
*Predicate:* what is written or said about the subject

*James fell off his motorbike.*

Subject	James
Predicate	fell off his motorbike

- A *clause* is a group of words which contains a verb and is part of a sentence.

### Examples of Clauses

- *when she went shopping*
- *Sue bought a new dress*
- *Richard ate five ice cream cakes*
- *because he was hungry*

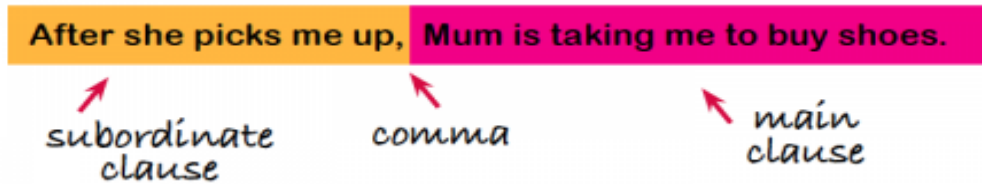
- There are two kinds of clauses:



**Main clause** is the most important clause. It can stand by itself and make complete sense. (Also called a simple sentence)



**Subordinate clause** is dependent on the main clause for its meaning. (it does not make sense on its own)



2. **Compound Sentences:** joined to one another by a connective/ conjunction. (FANBOYS).

F	A	N	B	O	Y	S
for	and	nor	But	or	yet	So

Example

*She went to the shop and bought a box of chocolates.*




**A Complex Sentence:** is a sentence that has one main clause (Independent clause) and one or more subordinate clause(s) (dependent clause(s)) joined by a **Subordinating** connective.

**I Saw a Wabub...**

...is an acronym to help you remember the first letters of some of the most important subordinating conjunctions.

If	Since	As	When	Although
While	After	Before	Until	Because

**I SAW A WABUB!**





## Exercises:

**1. Write “main clause” under the main clause and “subordinate clause” under the subordinate clause. Circle the connective (conjunction).**

- a. The mailman wouldn't deliver our mail after my dog bit him in the leg.
- b. Although none of us wanted to leave, we had to be home before  
midnight.
- c. Before my mom would let me spend the night, she had to talk to Jamie's  
mom.
- d. If you study for the test, you will do much better.
- e. We won't be able to play unless the rain stops by noon.
- f. Rex practiced his guitar until he could play the song perfectly.
- g. Whenever I think about my third-grade teacher, I have a warm feeling  
inside.
- h. We played games while the adults sat and talked.

**2. Write a subordinate clause to finish each sentence. The first one has been done to help you.**

a) Sophie was friends with the giant although she was a little scared of him.

b) She saw many elephants when \_\_\_\_\_

c) The children shivered in the cold wind although \_\_\_\_\_

d) You can't have sweet unless \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Use subordinating conjunctions (though, if, when, because, etc.) to form a complex sentence.**

a. I fell over. I hurt my knee.

\_\_\_\_\_

b. The game ended. The referee blew his whistle.

\_\_\_\_\_

c. She couldn't ride her bike. It had a puncture.

\_\_\_\_\_

d. I couldn't spell that word. I fetched the dictionary.

\_\_\_\_\_

e. We arrived on time. The train was delayed.

\_\_\_\_\_

f. Henry needs to learn English. I will teach him.

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g. It was raining outside. We went for a walk.

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**4. Decide whether the following are simple, compound or complex sentences:**

a. Yesterday we went to a party, but we didn't enjoy our time. \_\_\_\_\_

b. Daniel bought a car. \_\_\_\_\_

c. The weather is not very cold; however, I will wear my jacket. \_\_\_\_\_

d. If I were you, I would take my time with that project. \_\_\_\_\_

e. Although I felt he was wrong, I decided to trust him. \_\_\_\_\_

f. We had a wonderful dinner after she had arrived. \_\_\_\_\_

g. Everyone was busy, so I went to the movie alone. \_\_\_\_\_

h. I really want to buy some new clothes. \_\_\_\_\_



# Relative clauses:

Objectives: Explore how different relative pronouns are used in sentences to introduce additional detail.

## Relative Clauses

It is used to give extra information about the nouns in the main clause, without starting another sentence. A **relative clause** starts with a relative pronoun.

<b>who / that</b>	Subject or object pronoun for people	That's the woman <b>who</b> bought my house.
<b>which / that</b>	Subject or object pronoun for ANIMALS or THINGS	The horse <b>which</b> Mary was riding is very friendly and beautiful.
<b>where</b>	Refers to a PLACE	We found the wood <b>where</b> I used to go.
<b>when</b>	Refers to a TIME expression	I will never forget the day <b>when</b> I graduated.
<b>whose</b>	POSSESSION for people, animals and things	The mother <b>whose</b> child is missing is very sad.



Sometimes a subordinate clause is introduced by the **relative pronoun** 'who' (when referring to a person) or the **relative pronoun** 'which' (when referring to an animal or a thing)

**Examples**                      *I told you about the woman **who** lives next door.*

*Do you see the cat **which** is lying on the roof?*



Sometimes a connective and subordinate clause can be dropped into the middle of the main clause.

**Example**     *The older boy, who was much more sensible, prepared the barbecue.*

Subordinate clause (relative clause)



**Exercises:**

1. Choose subordinate clauses from the box to complete each sentence.

which had a hole in it            which was starving  
who had hurt her toe  
which was singing loudly        who had borrowed the money

- a) The girl, \_\_\_\_\_, saved up to pay it back.
- b) The old boat, \_\_\_\_\_, sank in the lake.
- c) Emma, \_\_\_\_\_, was limping badly.
- d) The bird, \_\_\_\_\_, was a lark.
- e) The thin dog, \_\_\_\_\_, gobbled up all the food.

**5. Complete these sentences using who or which.**

- a. I found the key \_\_\_\_\_ opens the old box.
- b. Emma wrote to her uncle, \_\_\_\_\_ had sent her a present.
- c. Amir is the boy \_\_\_\_\_ won first prize.
- d. Natalie went back to the shop \_\_\_\_\_ had sold the red shoes.

**Combine the following sentences using a relative pronoun:**

- a. Shakespeare is one of the best-known writers in the world. He is buried in Stratford.

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- b. Dan's bedroom is very big. He shares it with his brother.

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- c. I sent you a postcard. It was written on the summit of Ben Nevis.

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d. The waitress spilt the soup. She was obviously new at the job.

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e. The castle stands above the town. It was built by the Normans.

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f. The Titanic sank in 1912. It was supposed to be unsinkable.

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g. Maria is a brilliant girl. She is 12 years old. She lives with her grandmother.

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6. Complete the following sentences using the suitable relative pronoun

1. I know a great little restaurant ... we can get lunch.
  - a) that
  - b) who
  - c) where
2. Sam knows a man ... brother works for the president.
  - a) who
  - b) whose
  - c) whom
3. Students ... study hard get good grades.
  - a) when
  - b) whom
  - c) who
4. Food ... is imported from other countries is expensive.
  - a) that
  - b) where
  - c) why
5. The bad weather is the reason ... I was late for class yesterday.
  - a) whom
  - b) when
  - c) why
6. The cookies ... you baked are really delicious.
  - a) why
  - b) which
  - c) when
7. My grandfather remembers the time ... there was no television.
  - a) when
  - b) where
  - c) that
8. I visited my uncle ... lives in a different city.
  - a) who
  - b) which
  - c) when
9. The movie ... we saw last week won three awards.
  - a) who
  - b) when
  - c) which
10. Do you know the reason ... there are no penguins at the North Pole?
  - a) where
  - b) why
  - c) whose
11. The people ... names are on the list will stay here.
  - a) whose
  - b) where
  - c) that
12. He had a feeling ... something terrible was going to happen.
  - a) why
  - b) who
  - c) that
13. I want to borrow the book ... you bought last month.
  - a) whom
  - b) that
  - c) when
14. My home is a place ... I can come home and relax after work.
  - a) where
  - b) when
  - c) whom
15. Most of the people ... she met were from Sydney.
  - a) whom
  - b) when
  - c) whose
16. Can you find the teacher ... you talked to this morning?
  - a) whose
  - b) whom
  - c) when