

Clauses



Most sentences are made of clauses.

A main clause makes sense on its own. → Fred shouted at Bill.

A subordinate clause gives extra information but it doesn't make sense on its own.

Fred shouted at Bill because he got the answer wrong.

↑
main clause

↑
subordinate clause

1 Put a tick in the correct column to show whether each group of words is a main clause or a subordinate clause.

	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause
when you're ready		✓
unless you disagree		✓
Katie reads a lot	✓	
it has to go	✓	
because he's got too much		✓

2 Underline the subordinate clause in each sentence below.

I sometimes watch TV while eating my breakfast.

After the news has finished, Dad goes to bed.

Although she is funny, Nicole can be quite annoying.

We're going to go for a walk even if it rains.

3 Underline the main clause in each sentence below.

If Julian doesn't arrive soon, I'm going without him.

The boys don't mind school although the park is more fun.

Edward went back to bed while I made him some soup.

We're going out for dinner because it's Ben's birthday.

Despite the bad weather, they had a great holiday.

4 Draw lines to match each main clause to the correct subordinate clause.

They won't win their next match if I lend him this game.

Jenny will call us until it's her birthday.

He'll lend me a DVD after a big meal.

I usually feel very full when she's finished.

Hannah can't wait unless they train much harder.

5 Write a main clause next to each subordinate clause below.

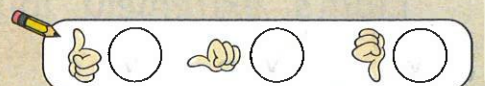
Examples:

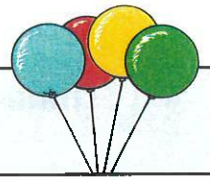
When I come home from school, I have my dinner.

After I've cleaned my teeth, I go to bed.

If Bill starts snoring, I'll splash him with lemonade.

"I can spot main clauses and subordinate clauses."





Noun Phrases

A **noun phrase** is a **phrase** that acts as a **noun**.

Noun phrases add **extra information** to sentences.

lots of dogs

lots of brown, spotty dogs

These are **noun phrases**. The noun is simply 'dogs'.

A phrase is usually a group of words without a verb.

1 Draw lines to match each group of words with the correct label.

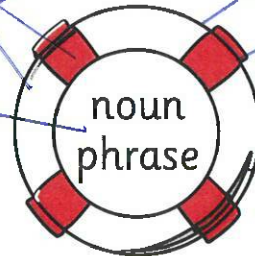
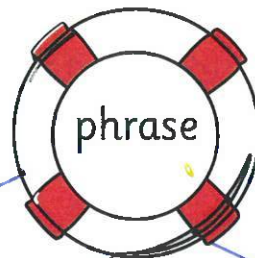
pretty horses

green jumper

unusually quiet

sunbathing hippos

quite right



really clean

every hairdresser

the freshly cut grass

near to her

black, plastic boxes

2 Circle the nouns in the underlined noun phrases below.

Janette likes Lillian's bright pink, high-heeled shoes.

Jonathan bought lots of comics.

Miss Potter has noticed the broken vase.

Saira intends to buy an expensive new house.

Liam's extremely loud alarm woke up Mr Entwistle.

★ **Extra Challenge**

Write out these sentences using your own noun phrases.



Adverbial Phrases

Adverbial phrases are **groups** of words that **act like adverbs**. They tell you **how**, **when**, **where** or **how often** something happens.

Stephen reads the newspaper **very slowly**.

This describes **how** the action is done.

1 Underline the adverbial phrases in each of these sentences.

I arrived at school much earlier than usual.

He completed the work as quickly as possible.

I can play the violin better than my brother.

My sister ate her dinner really eagerly.

2 Write the adverbial phrases on the board. There are five adverbial phrases in total.

so suddenly

bright red lipstick

quite carefully

very softly

extremely loudly

unbelievably quickly

trashy television

the cat's tail

adverbial phrases

...so...suddenly.....

...quite...carefully.....

...very...softly.....

...extremely...loudly.....

...unbelievably...quickly.....

Adverbial phrases don't always contain **adverbs**.

'During the film' does **not** contain an **adverb**, but it still describes **when** something happened. → Dad fell asleep **during the film**.

3 Tick the boxes next to the sentences that contain adverbial phrases. Then underline the adverbial phrases in these sentences.

I like to eat chocolate at the weekends.

I like to eat apples and cheese.

Twice a week I am allowed to eat crisps.

I like to eat chocolate in the bath.

I would choose chocolate over crisps.

4 Tick the boxes next to the groups of words that are adverbial phrases.

my secrets

extremely quietly

whilst swimming

his orders

a new routine

around the room

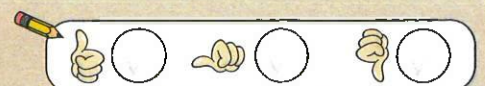
Use the adverbial phrases from above to complete these sentences.

She danced ... around the room

I whispered ... extremely quietly

Caroline got wet ... whilst swimming

"I can use adverbial phrases in a sentence."



Adverbial Phrases as Introductions



When **adverbial phrases** appear at the **start** of a sentence, they are usually **followed** by a **comma**.

At home, we have two cats.

← comma

In Paris, people speak French.

← comma

- 1 Underline the adverbial phrases in the following sentences and add a comma in the correct place.

On the way home, we visited Grandma and Grandad.

Before breakfast, I went for a run.

Very patiently, David built the tower of cards.

After six years as a doctor, John left his job.

All of a sudden, Helen stormed out.

Last month, Molly started a new school.

- 2 Write out these sentences with the adverbial phrases at the start.

Jo built a tree house near the river.

Near the river, Jo built a tree house.....

Jack smashed the glass very angrily.

Very angrily, Jack smashed the glass.....

I buy a magazine once a week.

Once a week, I buy a magazine.....

- 3 Put a tick next to the sentences that use a comma correctly after an adverbial phrase and put a cross next to the ones that don't.

Every Sunday, morning I have pancakes.

At school, people often confuse us.

With care, we decorated the birthday cake.

On the bottom, shelf there are three books.

Rewrite the incorrect sentences with the comma in the correct place.

Every Sunday morning, I have pancakes.
On the bottom shelf, there are three books.

- 4 Use adverbial phrases to complete these sentences.

Examples:

After lunch, we went for a walk.

On the table, there's a bunch of flowers.

Quite nervously, Jeremy began his speech.

Very bravely, my dad rescued the rabbit.

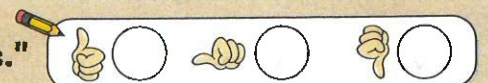
- 5 Write a sentence about the picture which starts with an adverbial phrase.

Eg:

Ridiculously loudly, the baby
screamed for its mum.



"I can use adverbial phrases at the start of sentences."



Other conjunctions can join a **main clause** to a **subordinate clause**.

Tom is going bowling **after** he plays football.

main clause

conjunction

subordinate clause

These conjunctions can also go at the **start** of a sentence.

3 Create sentences by joining the clauses using the conjunctions below.

The runners are happy

Let's get some petrol

We'll arrive on time

You can watch TV

Kim waited outside

until

unless

before

because

if

we hurry up.

they won the race.

Bill finally arrived

we run out.

it's still broken.

4 Choose the correct conjunction to complete these sentences.

if because while until since

I will wait ...until... you arrive.

...while... you were away, Jodie watered the plants.

We missed our flight because... we got stuck in traffic.

...If... we can't get tickets, we'll watch the match on TV.

...Since... he went away, we've had no one to play with.

Only use each conjunction once.

"I can use conjunctions to join two clauses together."

