



Clauses

If you liked phrases, then you're going to love clauses. They're like long-lost cousins.

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

If you can't decide between a phrase and a subordinate clause, remember that subordinate clauses usually have a verb and someone doing the action.

	Phrase	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause
he fell over			
out of pocket			
before we went out			
Saturdays are the best			
they jumped for joy			
when we saw him			

2. Underline the main clause in each of these sentences.

When they had found her shoes, they went out of the house.

They drank a lot of water after they had played out in the sun.

If I win the mud-throwing tournament, we can have a party.

We left the room before he could start his boring story.

I fed the pig, while Lucy took the chickens for a walk.

We had to leave the zoo because a hippo had escaped.

When summer comes, we can go to the beach every day.

I don't like swimming outdoors unless it's very hot and sunny.



Clauses

3. Underline the subordinate clause in each of these sentences.

We went to the park because I wanted to play football.

They will make a film after the TV series ends.

As long as the weather is nice, we're going to the fair this evening.

You can sing along if you want.

The music ended while they were dancing.

My computer has broken even though it's brand new.

If she does well in school, her parents are going to buy her a bike.

4. Rewrite the sentence below, adding a subordinate clause. Add a comma if necessary.

They swam in the sea.

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5. Write a main clause for each of these sentences, and add a comma if necessary.

a. When he got home

b. even though it was cold.

c. Before we could say anything

d. because he'd lost his coat.

e. while she had a shower.

Real Grammagators have long, sharp claws that tear up clause questions. How sharp are you at clauses?

