

# Phrase or Clause?

Speaking and  
Listening



What is a **Clause** ?

What is a **Phrase** ?



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Listening



What is a **Clause** ?

A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

What is a **Phrase** ?

A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



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The boy ran after the ball.

Which part is the clause; which is the phrase?



**Clause** A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

**Phrase** A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



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The boy ran after the ball.

Which part is the clause; which is the phrase?

**Clause**  
The boy ran

**Phrase**  
after the ball.

This is an example of a prepositional phrase as it about the position or direction.

**Clause** A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

**Phrase** A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



# Phrase or Clause?

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Are these phrases or clauses?

smashing into a tree

leaving behind the keys

because of her engaging smile

broken into millions of pieces

before lunch time

after the assembly



## Clause

A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

## Phrase

A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



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Are these phrases or clauses?

smashing into a tree

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because of her engaging smile

broken into millions of pieces

before lunch time

after the assembly

They are all phrases. They might have a verb or subject, but not both.

## Clause

A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

## Phrase

A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



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Are these phrases or clauses?

Tommy is kinder than me  
since she laughs at silly things

I despise nasty people  
when the children line up  
because she worked hard



**Clause** A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

**Phrase** A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



# Phrase or Clause?

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Are these phrases or clauses?

Tommy is kinder than me  
since she laughs at silly things  
when the children line up  
I despise nasty people  
because she worked hard

They are all clauses. They all have subject and verb.

Main clauses can exist on their own. Subordinate clauses need a main clause too to make sense. Which of the above are main or subordinate?

## Clause

A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

## Phrase

A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.





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Are these phrases or clauses?

in the playground

scoring a great goal

a nice shirt

arriving late

he is wearing

the train drove slowly

she kicked the ball

after lunch, they sang

The left are phrases; the right are clauses.

Can you rearrange and match them up?

## Clause

A group of words including a subject (usually noun) and verb.

## Phrase

A group of words that does not have a subject and verb.



Put a tick in each row to show whether the underlined part of the sentence is a **phrase** or a **clause**.

|  | <b>Phrase</b> | <b>Clause</b> |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| We went outside <u>so we could enjoy the sunshine.</u> |               |               |
| The sun shone <u>in the bright blue sky.</u>           |               |               |
| <u>The beautiful rainbow</u> lasted for hours.         |               |               |
| <u>We had fun</u> running around the garden.           |               |               |

