

CLAUSES: main and subordinate

Speaking and
Listening



What is a phrase?

- A group of words
- Does not have a subject and verb working together

eg: a light brown jacket (noun phrase) might be having (verb phrase)

^S ^{Verb}

 with my friends (prepositional phrase)

^{Prep}

What is a clause?

- Group of words with subject and verb

eg: Birds learn to fly when they are young.

^S ^{Verb}

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A clause: Group of words with subject and verb

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

	Phrase	Clause
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.		

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What is the difference between main and subordinate clauses?

Main clause:

Can make sense on its own

(Also known as independent clause)

Subordinate clause:

Does not make sense on its own

(Also known as dependent)

While I was walking, I noticed the school was closed.

Subordinate

Main

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Put a tick in each row to show whether the **main** clause or the **subordinate** clause is in bold.

One has been done for you.

	Main clause	Subordinate clause
My sister , who is very annoying, is older than me.	✓	
Sports day was cancelled because it was raining heavily.		
The sofa, which is old and worn , is the cat's favourite place to sleep.		
When I arrived, everyone else was already there.		

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This sentence is made up of two clauses: a main clause (MC) and a subordinate clause (SC).

MC

MC

Judith's brother, who is much older than she is, always looked out for her.

SC

Add a **subordinate clause** to the sentence below.

MC

The Hilltop Hotel, _____,

SC

MC

receives more visitors a year than any other hotel in the area.