

CLAUSES

A **CLAUSE** is a group of words that forms a part of a sentence. It has a subject and a predicate. There are two types of clauses: **PRINCIPAL** (or independent or main) and **SUBORDINATE** (or dependent).

A principal clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. A principal clause can stand by itself, as a separate sentence.

Principal clause → I heard the loud noise and I shrieked. ← Principal clause
 The Chief Minister is in the auditorium. ← The entire sentence is a principal clause.

A subordinate clause does the work of a single word or phrase, and is incomplete by itself, so it must be joined to a main clause. This means that the clause is subordinate to another clause for its meaning.

Subordinate clause → When I heard the loud noise I jumped. ← Principal clause
 → When the Chief Minister is in the auditorium, please switch off your cellphones.

L. Tick the principal clauses. ✓

1. Write your name ✓
2. Because she is an Indian ○
3. Give me ✓
4. A sentence that explains ○
5. The main idea should be clear ✓
6. Express an idea ✓
7. When Malti wrote an email ○
8. However, that is not correct ✓
9. While you were on the phone ○
10. What was the message Mr Rogers gave you for the chairperson ✓

M. Read this poem by T S Eliot. Identify the underlined parts as principal or subordinate clauses, or phrases. ← see pages 17 and 28 for a note on phrases.

1. Gus is the Cat at the Theatre Door.
2. His name, as I ought to have told you before,
3. Is really Asparagus. That's such a fuss
4. To pronounce, that we usually call him just Gus.

phrase
subordinate clause
principal clause
subordinate clause

- 5. His coat's very shabby, he's thin as a rake,
- 6. And he suffers from palsy that makes his paw shake.
- 7. Yet he was, in his youth, quite the smartest of Cats -
- 8. But no longer a terror to mice and rats.

Principal clause
Principal clause
Phrase
Subordinate clause



Sid and Joseph are talking about Gus the Cat from the above poem. Complete their conversation with principal or subordinate clauses. Use the hints in brackets.

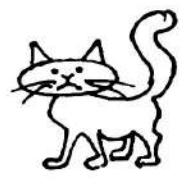
SID: Sometimes, I see a cat loitering around the Theatre Door (Where?)

JOSEPH: I have seen him too! He has been there for so long that they've named him Gus (name)

SID: My elder sister told me his name is Asparagus. (real name)

JOSEPH: They must have shortened the name because it's too hard to pronounce (Why?)

SID: I think he's shabby and thin (appearance)
 Have you noticed his paws shake?



JOSEPH: They probably shake because he suffers from palsy. (disease)

SID: That's a pity. My sister told me that when she was my age, he was smart and handsome. (appearance)

SUBJECT - PREDICATE

When we form a sentence, we name a person or thing and say something about that person or thing.

The part of a sentence that names a person or thing is called the SUBJECT.

The subject can be a word or a group of words.

The part that tells us something about the subject is called the PREDICATE.

The predicate contains a verb. It can be a word or a group of words.

SUBJECT
 The new student
 A stuffed mammoth

PREDICATE
 walked into the class.
 was on display at the Museum of Natural History.

A phrase is a group of two or more grammatically linked words without a subject and a predicate.
 She bought some apples when she went to the fruit shop.
 Lightning flashed brightly in the night sky.

A sentence that has one subject and one predicate is a **SIMPLE SENTENCE**. Thus, both sentences above are simple sentences. Each simple sentence has one principal clause.

Sometimes there may be more than one subject and predicate in a sentence.

Nalini is well but her brother is ill.
I love Maths and I love history.

These sentences consist of two parts. Each part is a clause. Each clause is independent of the other and all the clauses are of the same order and rank. They are all principal clauses.

The two parts are joined by a coordinating conjunction. Each part has its own subject and predicate. Sentences that have two or more principal clauses are called **COMPOUND SENTENCES**.

Remember, a conjunction that joins together sentences or clauses of equal rank or order is called a coordinating conjunction. And, but, so and for are some coordinating conjunctions.

For more on coordinating conjunctions, see page 158

Sometimes a sentence consists of two clauses – one dependent on the other.

This clause is dependent on the principal clause.

Principal clause → The children went to bed when night fell.

Dependent clause 1 → My teacher who read my essay said that although I had written it well, I had not used the correct punctuation marks.

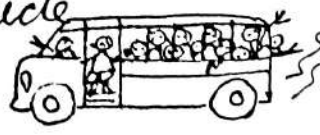
Dependent clause 2 → although I had written it well, I had not used the correct punctuation marks. ← Principal clause

The underlined parts of the two sentences above are principal clauses. The parts in colour are dependent clauses because they are dependent on the principal clause. They do not make sense on their own.

Sentences that have one principal clause and one or more dependent clauses are called **COMPLEX SENTENCES**.

N. Add principal clauses of your own to make compound sentences.

- Anita doesn't like swimming, but she likes cycling.
- Rajat completed his project and he presented it on Thursday.
- My father kneaded the dough and he made chapatis.
- I wanted a pen so I borrowed it from my friend.
- I like the fifth book in the Harry Potter series but I didn't like the movie much.
- Sixteen students got into the bus, but it became very crowded, so it was very hot inside.
- I prefer living in Kolkata, but there is lot of traffic.
- You had better hurry or you will be late.
- Can you go to the uniform shop today and pick up my dress?



O. Match the columns to make complex sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. This is the period | a. when she was in the camp. (3) |
| 2. We were playing | b. to help my teacher finalize the badminton kits for Sports Day. (7) |
| 3. I sent Ragini an email | c. I will be free after lunch. (6) |
| 4. We have a great time | d. who stole the Vermas' jewellery. (10) |
| 5. I began to feel better | e. when we go to my grandparents' place. (4) |
| 6. If you want me to help you clean your room | f. because I was busy reading an interesting book. (8) |
| 7. I have to be in the gym in the morning | g. when preparations for the Annual Day are in full swing. (1) |
| 8. The cake got burnt | h. which made me rub my eyes in amazement. (9) |
| 9. The magician performed a trick | i. after my mother gave me some herbal tea. (5) |
| 10. The police caught the thief | j. when the rain started. (2) |

MORE PRACTICE

P. There is an error in each line. Cross out the wrong word and write the correct word.

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Any of the oldest remains of buildings all over the world are still buried in the earth. | <u>Many</u> |
| 2. They <u>are</u> hidden from us till someone dug them up. | <u>were</u> |
| 3. Some very old ruins have been found <u>on</u> the north. | <u>in</u> |
| 4. We know however that long, long ago, even before the Aryans <u>come</u> to India, there were Dravidians here. | <u>came</u> |
| 5. They used to trade with people in <u>another</u> countries. | <u>other</u> |
| 6. They <u>send</u> many of their goods to Mesopotamia and Egypt. | <u>sent</u> |
| 7. They sent <u>cross</u> the seas rice and spices like pepper, and teakwood. | <u>across</u> |

8. It is said that some of the ancient palaces off the city of Ur in Mesopotamia were made of teakwood which was sent from South India.
9. It is also said that gold and pearls and ivory and peacocks and apes were sent for India to western countries.
10. Thus, there must have been a great deal of trade among India and other countries.

of
from
between

Q. One word is missing from each sentence. Indicate the position of the missing word with a /. Write the word on the blank.

1. Some of our great cities are / the banks of rivers.
2. One of the oldest was Indraprastha, which / somewhere near Delhi.
3. Banaras or Kashi is also very old, perhaps one of the oldest existing cities of / world.
4. Allahabad, Vijaywada and Patna and many others, are also / the banks of rivers.
5. Though most of these / not very old, Allahabad or Prayag and Patna or Pataliputra, as / used to be called, are pretty old.
6. Prayag / place of sacrifice.
7. The Mughal / Akbar renamed Prayag as Allahabad.
8. Allahabad means City / God.
9. The name Pataliputra is believed to have come from / Sanskrit word *pattan*.

on
was
the
on
are
they
was
Emperar
of
the

SNAP RECAP

