

Clauses



A clause is a group of words that contains a **subject** and its own **predicate**. The group of words can be a complete sentence or a part of a sentence.

★ Identify the subject and its predicate in the following clauses. One has been done for you. Cross the group that does not have a clause.

1. Yesterday, when ^S(Sarita invited Lata...) ^P
2. ^S(She took Chaman along...) ^P
3. When ^S(they both reached there...) ^P
4. ^S(Bansi and Sheila greeted them warmly...) ^P
5. All the way, through the narrow streets... (X)
6. Into the building ^S(they went...) ^P



A clause is a part of a sentence. A sentence can have more than one clause. Each clause in the sentence has its own subject-verb pair.

★ Enclose and count the clauses in each of these sentences. Underline the subject and its predicate. One has been done for you.

1. ^SBirbal ^Pwas a wise minister. 1 clause
2. (^SBirbal ^Pwas a wise minister) and (^SAkbar ^Prespected him immensely.)
3. [^SWhenever Akbar ^Pgave Birbal a tricky problem], [^SBirbal ^Psolved it easily].
4. [^SMany of the ministers ^Pwere jealous of Birbal] as [^SAkbar ^Pwas very fond of him].
5. [^SEven though Akbar ^Pwas an emperor] [^She ^Pknew that Birbal was wiser than him].
6. [^SBirbal ^Pwas witty] yet [^SAkbar ^Pwas known to have got upset with him occasionally].



If a clause makes complete sense as it is, it is an **independent clause**. If a clause depends on another clause to make complete sense, it is a **dependent clause**.

★ Which of the clauses given below make complete sense? Read and tick.

★ Cross the clauses that need something more to make complete sense.

1. The sun sets in the west... ☒
2. If he knows where it is... ☒
3. She gives answers... ☒
4. Before I ask a question... ☒
5. They know what to do... ☒
6. Because he lied... ☒



Say it aloud

- ☐ A **clause** is a group of words that contains a subject and its own predicate. A predicate consists of a verb or a verb phrase and the rest of the sentence.
- ☐ A **clause** can be a complete sentence or a **part** of a sentence. A sentence can have one clause or more than one clause.
- ☐ A **clause** is either **independent** or **dependent**. An **independent clause** makes complete sense on its own. A **dependent clause** depends on another clause to make complete sense.



A clause that makes complete sense on its own is an **independent clause**.

A clause that depends on another clause to make complete sense is a **dependent clause**.

★ In each of the sentences given below, is the underlined clause an independent clause (IC) or a dependent clause (DC)? Read and note.

1. Football is an interesting game though it requires a lot of energy. **IC**
2. If he plays with more consistency, he would be able to score more goals. **DC**
3. We will stay here until others return from their cloakroom. **DC**
4. Before his father could speak to the teacher, he had already spoken to her. **IC**
5. Among the many unfamiliar faces, there was one familiar face. **IC**



★ Underline the **independent clauses** in the given sentences.

1. Once we start practising regularly, the concept will become clear.
2. There was a knock at the door even before I shut it close.
3. As the day turned to night, the bats began to get active.
4. The police were called because the crowd was getting boisterous and noisy.



★ Underline the **dependent clauses** in the given sentences.

1. My mother is worried that I am putting on too much weight.
2. She has put me on a strict diet so that my weight does not increase any further.
3. My mother will be happy if I strictly follow the diet plan.
4. Even though the diet plan is showing good result, I hate being kept off junk food!



★ The independent and dependent clauses in the following sentences are mismatched. Read the sentences, identify the matching pairs of clauses and rewrite correctly.

- ★ I packed all my important papers in advance as soon as the monkey began to dance.
- ★ A crowd gathered when the teacher entered the classroom.
- ★ We stood up because my father asked me to do so.

1. I packed all my important papers in advance because my father asked me to do so.
2. A crowd gathered as soon as the monkey began to dance.
3. We stood up when the teacher entered the classroom.