



Clauses

Definition of a Clause

- A clause is a group of words that has a subject and a finite verb.
- It may or may not make complete sense on its own.
- It forms part of a sentence.

Examples:

- "I met my friend who studied with me."

👉 "who studied with me" is a clause.

Phrase vs. Clause vs. Sentence

Element	Definition	Example
Phrase	Group of words without a subject or finite verb	in the market, of great wealth
Clause	Group of words with a subject and a finite verb	who enjoys good health
Sentence	Group of words that make complete sense (at least 1 clause)	Rahul is a man who enjoys good health.

Types of Clauses

Clauses are categorized into three major types:

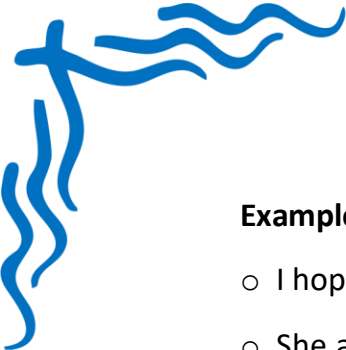
Noun Clause

A noun clause does the work of a noun. It can function as:

- Subject
- Object
- Object of a preposition, complement, etc.

Introduced by:

- That, if, whether, what, how, why, etc.



Examples:

- I hope that I will pass the test.
- She asked if I had a pen.
- We know what she did yesterday.

Adjective Clause

An adjective clause works like an adjective and describes a noun or pronoun.

Introduced by:

- Who, whom, whose – for people
- Which, that – for things
- **Sometimes:** as, when, where

Examples:

- The girl who is singing is my sister.
- Have you read the book that I lent you?
- Such men as do not lie are rare.

Adverb Clause

An adverb clause works like an adverb, modifying a verb, adjective, or another adverb.

Answers questions like:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| • When? (Time) | • How? (Manner) |
| • Where? (Place) | • What if? (Condition) |
| • Why? (Cause or purpose) | |

Introduced by:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Time: when, before, after, until, while, as soon as | • Condition: if, unless |
| • Place: where, wherever | • Contrast: though, although, even if |
| • Cause/Reason: because, since, as | • Result: so...that, such...that |
| • Purpose: so that, that, lest | • Comparison: as...as, than |
| | • Manner: as, as if |







Examples:

- If you work hard, you will succeed. (Condition)
- He ran because he was scared. (Reason)
- I waited until he arrived. (Time)

Points to Remember

Concept	Explanation
Clause	Has a subject and a finite verb
Noun Clause	Works like a noun
Adjective Clause	Describes a noun/pronoun
Adverb Clause	Modifies a verb, adjective or adverb
Phrase	No subject or finite verb, gives partial meaning
Sentence	Complete in sense and contains at least one clause

Grammar Byte Summary

-  Clause = Subject + Finite Verb
-  A phrase has no finite verb
-  A sentence may consist of one or more clauses
-  Clause may or may not stand alone (if it does, it's a sentence)

Practice Tip (From the Book)

Identify the clause type:

“She wanted to know if I had any objection.”

 Noun clause (object of the verb "know")