

## Phrases and Clauses

### 1. What is a Phrase?

**A phrase is a group of words that:**

- Makes some sense but not complete sense.
- Does not contain a finite verb.
- Cannot stand alone as a sentence.

**Example:**

- ❖ “Helping the needy” is a phrase.
- ❖ “Of gold” is a phrase.

### Types of Phrases

#### a) Noun Phrase

- Acts as a noun in the sentence.

**Example:** Children love watching cartoons.

#### b) Adjective Phrase

- Acts like an adjective; modifies a noun.

**Example:** Mr Sharma is a man of few words.

#### c) Adverb Phrase

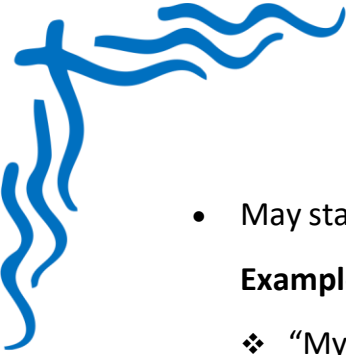
- Acts like an adverb; modifies a verb.

**Example:** I searched for my purse in every place.

### 2. What is a Clause?

**A clause is a group of words that:**

- Has a subject and a finite verb.
- Can make complete sense (main clause) or incomplete sense (subordinate clause).



- May stand on its own (main clause) or depend on another clause (subordinate clause).

**Example:**

- ❖ “My mother gave my sister a gold chain.” → phrase
- ❖ “My mother gave my sister a chain which was made of gold.” → clause

## Types of Clauses

### A. Main or Independent Clause

- Has a subject and a finite verb.
- Makes complete sense.
- Can stand alone as a sentence.

**Example:** Rahul drives to work early.

### B. Subordinate or Dependent Clause

- Has a subject and a verb.
- Does NOT make complete sense alone.
- Depends on the main clause.

**Example:** So that he can avoid being late.

## 3. Types of Subordinate Clauses

### A. Noun Clause

- Acts as a noun.
- Begins with: that, what, when, where, why, who, if, whether, how

**Examples:**

- ❖ He knew that he would qualify.
- ❖ My mom asked me whether I had prepared.

**Can act as:**

- **Subject:** That she passed made us happy.
- **Object:** I know that she is honest.

- **Complement:** The truth is that he lied.

## B. Adjective Clause

- Acts as an adjective (modifies a noun).
- Begins with relative pronouns: who, whom, whose, which, that
- Or relative adverbs: when, where, why

### Examples:

- ❖ The girl who came today is my sister.
- ❖ The boy whose father is a doctor studies with me.

## C. Adverb Clause

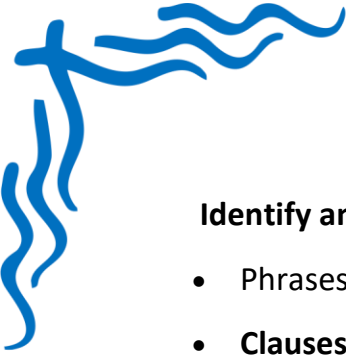
- Acts as an adverb (modifies a verb).
- Tells how, when, where, why, or under what condition something happened.

Function	Linkers	Example
Time	when, while, before	I came when students were leaving.
Place	where	Sit where you like.
Reason / Cause	because, as	He missed class because he was ill.
Condition	if, unless	I'll help if you study.
Result	so that	He ran fast so that he could win.
Manner	as, as if	He acted as if he knew everything.
Comparison	as...as, than	She is as brave as her sister.

## Grammar Byte: Key Differences

Feature	Phrase	Clause
Verb	No finite verb	Has a finite verb
Sense	Incomplete	Can be complete or incomplete
Stand Alone	Cannot	Some can (main clause)
Function	Acts as noun/adj/adverb	Acts as noun/adj/adverb/sentence

## Practice Tasks from Textbook



### **Identify and label:**

- Phrases and their types
- **Clauses:** main and subordinate

### **Complete the sentences:**

- With noun clauses (e.g., I know that...)
- With adjective clauses (e.g., The boy who...)
- With adverb clauses (e.g., She cried because...)

### **Points to Remember**

- A phrase lacks a subject-verb pair.
- A clause has a subject and verb and may or may not be a sentence.
- Main clauses can stand alone; subordinate clauses cannot.
- Subordinate clauses are of three types: noun, adjective, and adverb clauses.