



Phrases and Clauses

Learning Outcomes

- Students will learn what phrases and clauses are.
- They will understand the difference between phrases and clauses.
- Students will practice identifying and forming phrases and clauses.



Lead in

Write which one is a 'phrase' and which one is a 'clause'?

(a)



(b)



(a) What a novel! (_____)

(b) The boy is reading a novel. (_____)

(a) How nice to meet you. (_____)

(b) I met my friend today. (_____)

Phrases

A **phrase** is a group of words that makes sense but not complete sense.

A **phrase** may consist of one word or more than one word.

Example : Megha likes **drawing pictures**.

In the above examples, the highlighted words are all phrases.

Kinds of Phrases

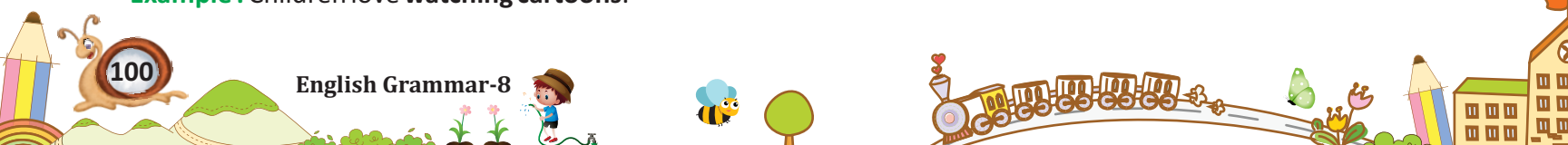
Phrases are of different kinds based on different **Parts of Speech**, but the following three kinds are important:

1. Noun Phrase
2. Adjective Phrase
3. Adverb Phrase

1. Noun Phrase

A group of words that act as a noun in a sentence is called a **Noun Phrase**.

Example : Children love **watching cartoons**.





2. Adjective Phrase

A group of words that act as an adjective in a sentence is called an **Adjective Phrase**.

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

3. Adverb Phrase

A group of words that act as an adverb is called an **Adverb Phrase**.

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

A. Underline the phrases in the following sentences and write their kinds.

1. Helping the needy is noble. _____

2. The necklace is made of gold. _____

3. Children love to fly kites. _____

Clause

A Clause is a group of words that forms a part of a sentence and has a subject and a finite verb in it.

A clause has one finite verb in it.

Read the following examples:

1. My mother gave my sister **a gold chain**. (phrase)

2. My mother gave my sister a chain **which was made of gold**. (clause)

3. **My mother gave my sister a chain which was made of gold**. (sentence)



Grammar Byte

- ⊙ A phrase has no finite verb.
- ⊙ A phrase cannot stand on its own.
- ⊙ A clause has one finite verb.
- ⊙ A clause may or may not be able to stand on its own.
- ⊙ A sentence has at least one finite verb.
- ⊙ A sentence can always stand on its own.
- ⊙ When a clause cannot stand on its own, it is part of a sentence.
- ⊙ When a clause stands on its own, it is also a sentence.

Kinds of Clauses

There are two types of clauses:

1. **Main or Independent or Principal clause**

2. **Subordinate or Dependent clause**

Example:

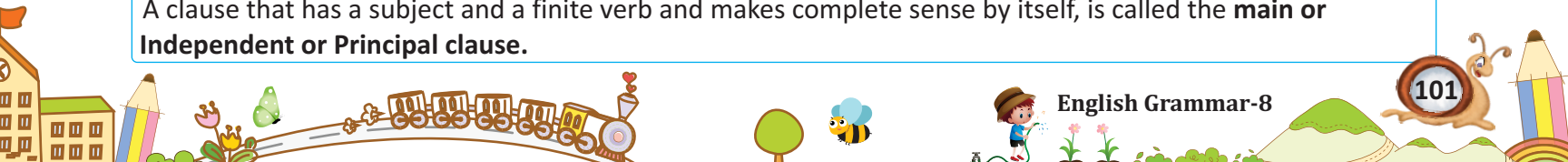


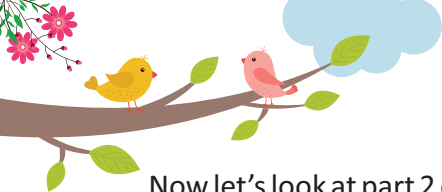
In part 1 of the sentence.

Rahul drives to work early. (Rahul is subject and drives is a finite verb.)

Hence, it is a clause. Also, it makes a complete sense.

A clause that has a subject and a finite verb and makes complete sense by itself, is called the **main or Independent or Principal clause**.





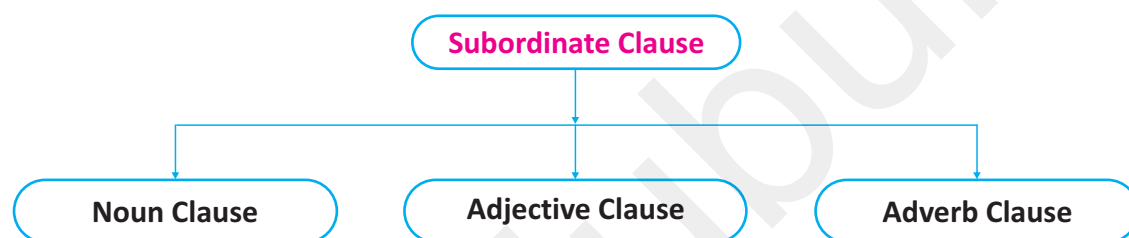
Now let's look at part 2 of the sentence so that he can avoid being late. This part gives additional information about the main clause. Also, it does not make complete sense. Hence, it is a dependent clause.

A dependent clause depends on the main clause to make complete sense. Its importance is less than the main clause. So, it is called a **Subordinate Clause**.

B. Underline the main clauses and circle the subordinate clauses in the following sentences:

1. I met a friend who helped me a lot.
2. People love people who never tell lies.
3. We met a boy who was crying.
4. We were returning from school when the storm started.
5. Do you know what we will be doing tomorrow?
6. That night he could not sleep.
7. Give her what she wants.
8. The dress that you wanted is out of stock.

Kinds of Subordinate Clause



Noun Clause

A clause which acts as a noun in a sentence is called a **noun clause**.

Example:



He knew is the main clause. **That he would qualify** is subordinate noun clause as it answers the question what?

A noun clause can act as the subject or the object or the complement of the verb or the object of the preposition in a sentence.

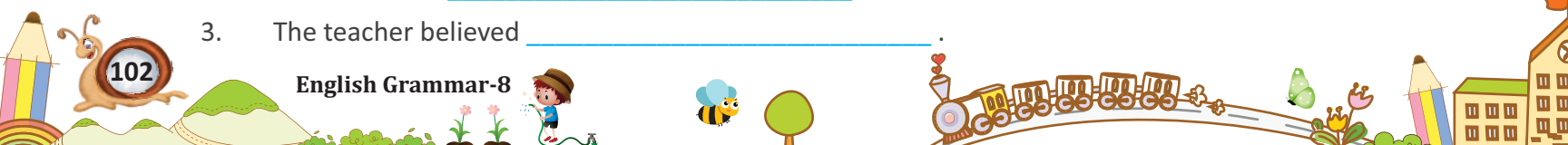
A noun clause begins with the words: that, how, what, when, where, whether, if which, who, why.

Read the following sentences carefully:

1. My mom asked me whether I had prepared for my exams.
2. I knew when the teacher would come.
3. Our teacher wondered why the students were absent.
4. The mechanic says that the fan will not work.
5. That he will be appointed in the job is certain.

C. Supply suitable noun clauses to complete the following sentences.

1. You should remember _____.
2. No one knows _____?
3. The teacher believed _____.



4. Can anyone guess _____ .
5. I wondered _____ .

Adjective Clause

A clause that acts as an adjective in a sentence is called an **Adjective Clause**. It describes a noun of the main clause.

It begins with a relative pronoun - that, who, which, whom or whose.

It also begins with relative adverbs - when, where and why.

- Examples:**
1. The girl who came today is my sister.
 2. The boy whom you know is my friend.
 3. The girl whose mother is a teacher has come here.

Living	Non-Living	Living & Non-Living
who whom whose	which that of which, where	that

N. Supply suitable adjective clause in the following sentences.

1. The trains _____ got delayed because of fog had to wait.
2. The student _____ father is a doctor came here.
3. The book _____ which belongs to my friend is a good read.
4. The boy _____ is jumping with joy.
5. People _____ should not throw stones at others.



Skills/Level
WRITING/A2



Adverb clause

An **Adverb Clause** describes the verb in the subordinate clause. It acts like an adverb in a sentence.

Study the below table.

Function of adverbial clause	Linking word	Example
Time	when	I came when students were about to leave.
Place	where	You may sit where you like.
Reason/Cause out of the city.	as/because	My father will not attend the meeting as/because he is
Function of adverbial clause	Linking word	Example
Condition	if/unless	I shall help you if you behave yourself.
Effect/result	that	We are so happy that we want to celebrate.
Manner	as/as if	My friend acted well as he usually does. He acted as if he was happy.
Comparison	as - as than	She is as brave as her mother. Aryan is taller than Rinkee.

E. Complete the following sentences with suitable clauses.

1. Jasbir did not help me _____ .
2. You will get a good result _____ .
3. She went early to bed _____ .



Skills/Level
READING & WRITING/B1



4. They returned home _____.
5. He spoke nicely _____.



Points to Remember

- ⦿ **A Phrase** is a group of words that makes sense but not complete sense.
- ⦿ **A Phrase** may consist of one word or more than one word.
- ⦿ Phrases are of different kinds – **Noun Phrase, Adjective Phrase, Adverb Phrase.**
- ⦿ A group of words that act as a noun in a sentence is called **A Noun Phrase.**
- ⦿ A group of words that act as an adjective in a sentence is called an **Adjective Phrase.**
- ⦿ A group of words that act as an adverb is called **An Adverb Phrase.**
- ⦿ **A Clause** is a group of words that forms a part of a sentence and has a subject and a finite verb in it.
- ⦿ Clauses are of different kinds– **Noun Clause, Adjective Clause and Adverb Clause.**
- ⦿ A clause which acts as a noun is called a **Noun Clause.**
- ⦿ A clause that acts as an adjective in a sentence is called **Adjective Clause.**
- ⦿ **An Adverb Clause** acts as an adverb in a sentence.



My Activity Corner

Complete the following sentences by adding suitable noun clauses.

1. I think _____.
2. He told me _____.
3. _____ hurts me.
4. You can eat _____.
5. I do not know _____.



My EeeBee Interactive Activities



Listening



Speaking



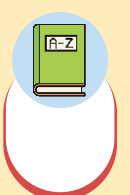
Reading



Writing



Grammar



Vocabulary

WRITE YOUR SCORE

Practice your LSRW Skills



on Communication Lab

