

# Sentence Vocabulary

## Phrase

A group of words that work together.

e.g. **a big dog**      **five minutes ago**

NB A phrase doesn't make complete sense on its own. As it doesn't have a verb, it can't be a complete sentence.

## Clause

A group of words that work together and include a verb.

e.g. **the boy won the race**

There are two kinds of clauses (see below)

## Main clause

A clause that makes complete sense on its own.

e.g. **she bought a new dress**

A main clause can be a sentence on its own.

## Subordinate clause

A clause that doesn't make sense on its own – it needs to be joined onto a main clause.

e.g. **when she went shopping**

A subordinate clause cannot be a sentence on its own.

## Simple sentence

This is made up from just one clause.

e.g. **It was late.**

## Compound sentence

This is made up from two or more **main** clauses. These clauses can be joined using **'and', 'but' or 'so'**.

e.g. **It was late but I wasn't tired.**

Both the clauses are equally important.

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## Complex sentence

This is made up from a **main clause** and one or more **subordinate clauses**.

e.g. **The man limped because his leg hurt**

## Rearranging complex sentences

**clauses** can appear in different positions in complex sentences.

e.g. **She took her dog with her wherever she went.**  
**Wherever she went she took her dog with her.**  
**Rose, who was a greedy girl, ate five cakes.**

Subordinate clauses can take on the job of a noun, an adjective or an adverb.

## Connectives

Connective is the name for any word that links clauses or sentences together. There are two main groups of connectives:

### Conjunctions and Connecting Adverbs

## Conjunctions

**Conjunctions** are words that are used to link clauses **within** a sentence.

e.g. **but if**

There are two main kinds:

**Co-ordinating conjunctions** – link two main clauses to make compound sentences.

e.g. **and, but, or, so**

**I was angry but I didn't say anything.**

**Subordinating conjunctions** - go at the start of a subordinate clause so they work to link the subordinating clause to the main clause.

e.g. **when, while, before, after, since, until, if, because, although, that**

**We were hungry when we got home.**

# Sentence Vocabulary

## Connecting adverbs

**Connecting adverbs** link the ideas in two sentences together but the two sentences still remain separate.

Connecting adverbs link ideas in several different ways.

Addition – **also, furthermore, moreover**

Opposition – **however, nevertheless, on the other hand**

Reinforcing – **besides, anyway, after all**

Explaining – **for example, in other words, that is to say**

Listing – **first(ly), first of all, finally**

Indicating result – **therefore, consequently, as a result**

Indicating time – **just then, meanwhile, later**

Commas are often used to mark off connecting adverbs.

**I was angry. However, I didn't say anything.**