

# Clauses



Most sentences are made of **clauses**.

A **main clause** has a **subject** and a **verb**, and **makes sense** on its own.

A **subordinate clause** gives extra information but it **doesn't make sense** on its own.

main clause → Hilary told Alex **that she couldn't come.** ← subordinate clause

1 Underline the main clauses in the sentences below.

Darius went to the shop because he needed some milk.

Jodie is going to the party even if Rebecca won't go with her.

Provided that it doesn't start to rain, they'll play outside.

Unless you know the answer, we'll ask Richard.

They climbed the tree even though I thought it was a bad idea.

2 Add a word from the box and your own clause to complete the sentences below.

when    after    although    until    before

Only use each word from the box once.

We need to wait .....

Eleanor has a shower .....

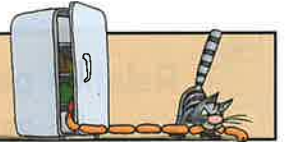
I'm going to buy some sweets .....

Doris wants to get a dog .....

Sophie eats her breakfast .....

"I can spot main clauses and subordinate clauses."

# Phrases



Clauses and sentences are built up of **groups of words** called **phrases**.  
A **phrase** either doesn't have a **verb**, or doesn't have a **subject**  
(some phrases might have neither).

to the post office

a few green monsters

1 Circle the groups of words below which are phrases.

I go swimming

he likes it

we live on a farm

this afternoon

on the way to school

★ **Extra Challenge**

Write your own sentences using the phrases you circled.

a yellow submarine

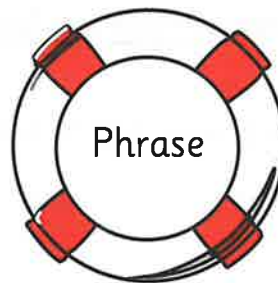
Frank has a caravan

really fast

I ate a piece of cake

2 Draw lines to match each group of words with the correct label.

behind the blue sofa



we're happy

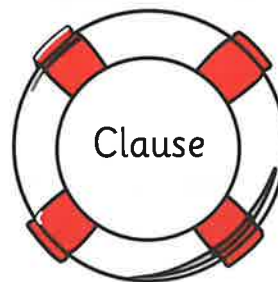
on the phone

those naughty boys

he's silly

let's play golf

little, pork sausages



I go swimming

Ray sat down

they're fine

at the back

long, hairy legs

"I can spot phrases and clauses."

