

Identifying Main Clauses and Subordinate Clauses

Tick one box in each row to show whether the underlined clause is the main clause or the subordinate clause.

Sentence	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause	Sentence	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause
The shop, <u>which was apparently open</u> , had no lights on.			<u>After completing her homework</u> , Alice went out to play in the garden.		
<u>The sun</u> , sparkling like a diamond, <u>was overhead</u> .			Before starting work, <u>Leila went for a run</u> .		
Getting up from his seat, <u>the teacher shouted at the children</u> .			Andrew cooked a Sunday roast <u>which was delicious</u> .		
The toolkit, <u>which was strapped to his waist</u> , was heavy.			She paid the bill <u>after eating her meal</u> .		
Mrs Smith, who is our Maths teacher, <u>always plans great lessons</u> .			Once his bed was made, <u>Jake was able to play on his game</u> .		
Manchester, <u>where I live</u> , is a brilliant city.			Real Madrid, <u>my favourite team</u> , are the best club.		
Although it was raining, <u>the old man decided to clean his car</u> .			<u>The tennis player, dressed in white</u> , <u>won the match by one point</u> .		
Harry walked to the park <u>that was full of children</u> .			I hate the stripy scarf <u>that my mum knitted for me</u> .		

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Identifying Main Clauses and Subordinate Clauses – Worksheet 1 – Expert

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The shop, <u>which was apparently open</u> , had no lights on.		✓	<u>After completing her homework</u> , Alice went out to play in the garden.		✓
<u>The sun</u> , sparkling like a diamond, <u>was overhead</u> .	✓		Before starting work, <u>Leila went for a run</u> .	✓	
Getting up from his seat, <u>the teacher shouted at the children</u> .	✓		Andrew cooked a Sunday roast <u>which was delicious</u> .		✓
The toolkit, <u>which was strapped to his waist</u> , was heavy.		✓	She paid the bill <u>after eating her meal</u> .		✓
Mrs Smith, who is our Maths teacher, <u>always plans great lessons</u> .	✓		Once his bed was made, <u>Jake was able to play on his game</u> .	✓	
Manchester, <u>where I live</u> , is a brilliant city.		✓	Real Madrid, <u>my favourite team</u> , are the best club.		✓
Although it was raining, <u>the old man decided to clean his car</u> .	✓		<u>The tennis player, dressed in white</u> , <u>won the match by one point</u> .		✓
Harry walked to the park <u>that was full of children</u> .		✓	I hate the stripy scarf <u>that my mum knitted for me</u> .		✓

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Tick one box in each row to show whether the underlined clause is the main clause or the subordinate clause.

Sentence	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause	Sentence	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause
The house, dilapidated and lonely, <u>stood at the edge of the haunted forest.</u>			While robins are fighting in the garden, <u>other birds eat the bird food.</u>		
<u>As the sun went down,</u> I read my book on the balcony.			He was late for the film <u>because he missed the train.</u>		
<u>Because the road was icy,</u> the cyclist fell off his bike.			<u>The birthday present,</u> wrapped in pink shiny paper, <u>sat on the table next to the cake.</u>		
<u>Unless you finish your pasta,</u> you cannot have any ice cream.			As Kate walked out of the room, <u>she tripped over the rug.</u>		
After the lights went out, <u>the cat left the house for the night.</u>			<u>Before opening the door,</u> I took a deep breath.		
The bus, full of noisy children, <u>weaved down the winding roads.</u>			Amy, <u>the best basketball player in school,</u> has been picked to play for her county.		
<u>Even though it was snowing,</u> she enjoyed her bowl of ice cream.			While Mum was at the shop, <u>Ben and his dad cleaned the house.</u>		
As the clouds cleared, <u>Amir left for work.</u>			The bus, <u>rusty and spluttering,</u> pulled into the garage.		

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Identifying Main Clauses and Subordinate Clauses – Worksheet 2 – Expert

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Identifying Main Clauses and Subordinate Clauses

Tick one box in each row to show whether the underlined clause is the main clause or the subordinate clause.

Sentence	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause	Sentence	Main Clause	Subordinate Clause
The house, dilapidated and lonely, stood at the <u>edge of the haunted forest</u> .	✓		While robins are fighting in the garden, <u>other birds eat the bird food</u> .	✓	
As the sun went down, I read my book on the balcony.		✓	He was late for the film <u>because he missed the train</u> .		✓
<u>Because the road was icy</u> , the cyclist fell off his bike.		✓	<u>The birthday present</u> , wrapped in pink shiny paper, <u>sat on the table next to the cake</u> .	✓	
Unless you finish your pasta, <u>you cannot have any ice cream</u> .	✓		As Kate walked out of the room, <u>she tripped over the rug</u> .	✓	
After the lights went out, <u>the cat left the house for the night</u> .	✓		<u>Before opening the door</u> , I took a deep breath.		✓
The bus, full of noisy children, weaved down the winding roads.		✓	Amy, <u>the best basketball player in school</u> , has been picked to play for her county.		✓
<u>Even though it was snowing</u> , she enjoyed her bowl of ice cream.		✓	While Mum was at the shop, <u>Ben and his dad cleaned the house</u> .	✓	
As the clouds cleared, <u>Amir left for work</u> .	✓		The bus, <u>rusty and spluttering</u> , pulled into the garage.		✓

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