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## 2. What are subordinate clauses?

- It is important to know about the subordinate (or dependent) clause!
- Unlike main clauses, subordinate clauses need a little help to make sense, and they are also often referred to as dependent clauses. A subordinate clause is a clause that can't stand alone as a complete sentence, even though it contains a subject and a verb. It doesn't contain a complete thought as a main clause does. It has to be linked to the main clause using a subordinating conjunction.



- Examples of subordinate clause include:

- Sitting happily, the chicken laid eggs.

- The chicken, who was busy laying eggs, sat happily.

- Looking over the hill, she sighed wistfully.

- She sighed wistfully, looking over the hill.

- The girl, who was looking over the hill, sighed wistfully.

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- 'Sitting happily' is a subordinate clause because it's not a complete thought. It needs the main clause, 'the chicken laid eggs', to make any sense to the reader.

### 3. What are coordinate clauses?

- A coordinate clause is made when you connect two independent clauses that are of equal importance. These clauses are connected by coordinating conjunctions. Similar to subordinate clauses, coordinate clauses also combine two sentences, so it can be difficult to get the difference between them right.
- A good way to remember the difference between the two is to first think of the meaning of 'coordinate'. To coordinate means to work together on equal standing. A coordinate clause contains two sentences with equal importance. So, just remember that in a coordinate clause, the two sentences are working together as a team to make one coordinate clause.

- Examples of coordinate clauses include:
  - He wanted to go to the beach, but it started raining.
  - You can feed the dog, or you can wash the dishes.
  - They have homework to do, yet they keep putting it off.
  - These two clauses are connected by a coordinating conjunction.
  - I like chocolate and I like sweets.
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- Both 'I like chocolate' and 'I like sweets' are main clauses that can make sense independently. They've been joined together by the coordinating conjunction, 'and', to make coordinate clauses.

## What are adjective clauses?

- An adjective clause begins with a relative pronoun (such as whom, whose, which, or that) or a relative adverb (when, where, or why). This type of clause includes a relative pronoun or adverb alongside a subject and / or a verb. Similar to a subordinate clause, an adjective clause is a dependent clause because it relies on the rest of the sentence to make sense.
- A good tip for remembering how to spot an adjective clause is to watch out for certain words. The only words that can be used to introduce an adjective clause are relative pronouns (who, whose, whom, which or that) and subordinating conjunctions (when and where).

- Examples of adjective clauses include:

- -The girl who has short hair is laughing.

- -The book which has the dragon on the cover is my favorite.

- -The stray cat that I pet sometimes is friendly.

- -Those people whose names are on the list will go to camp.

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- Similar to a subordinate clause, an adjective clause is a dependent clause because it relies on the rest of the sentence to make sense. The phrase 'whose names are on the list' isn't a complete thought, so it wouldn't make sense all on its own.

## 5. What are noun clauses?

- Next up on our journey of learning ‘what is a clause in English?’, we have noun clauses!
- A noun clause is any clause that works in the same way as a noun. In other words, you could replace the clause with a noun, and it would still make sense. Noun clauses act in the same way as a noun or pronoun. It contains a subject and a verb, but not a complete thought, so it can't stand as its own sentence. A noun clause starts with a pronoun or a subordinating conjunction.





- Here are some examples of noun clauses.

- Do you know what you're going to wear?

- Do you know what dress to wear?

- Do you know where the café is?

- The café where I work is just over there.

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## What are adverb clauses?

- An adverb clause is a dependent clause that doesn't make sense on its own. It relies on an independent clause to make sense. This is why they're sometimes called dependent adverb clauses. An adverb clause offers a description and modifies the sentence, similar to how an adverb does. It contains a subject and a verb, but it doesn't express a complete thought.
- Examples of adverb clauses include:
  - She walked slowly.
  - She walked like an old lady.
  - She walked as if she were heading to the gallows.