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A Clause

A clause is a group of words that includes a subject and a verb. We use clauses to form sentences or parts of sentences. There are a number of different types of clause including main clauses, subordinate clauses, coordinate clauses and adjective (or relative) clauses.

What is a Clause in English?


- A clause is an important feature of written English. Simply, it's a group of words that includes a subject and a verb.
- Clauses are what make up a sentence, and there are different kinds including main clauses, coordinate clause and subordinate clauses.
- To help us answer the question of 'what is a clause in English?', let's look at an example:
- *The fast, white mouse darted up a tree.*
- The subject of this clause is the mouse, and the verb is 'darted'. This can also be called a simple sentence.

What Are The Different Types of Clause?

- It's important to be aware that there are a number of clause types that can be used in a sentence.

1. What is a main clause?

- A main clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb. A main clause can form a complete sentence all on its own. Main clauses are also often referred to as independent clauses because they don't need any additional information to make sense. They can stand alone perfectly fine without the support of another clause. They express a complete thought.
- Sentences can consist of two main clauses or a main clause and another type of clause. When there is only one main clause and another different type of clause, the second clause depends on the main clause to make sense.

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- Examples of main clauses include:
 - The cat mewed.
 - His car broke down at the station.
 - The girl laughed loudly.



- 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.