

GRAMMAR REVIEW PACKET 4

PHRASES AND CLAUSES

PHRASE - A phrase is a group of related words. It **does not** contain a subject and a verb. There are different types of phrases.

- Examples:**
1. from the stairs
 2. to run
 3. playing the piano

CLAUSE - A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb. There are two types of clauses.

- Examples:**
1. The play was funny.
 2. Since the play was funny.

PHRASES - a phrase is a group of related words. It does not contain a subject and a verb. There are different types of phrases.

1. **Prepositional Phrase** - (prep + noun/pron)

- Examples:**
1. Most Australians live in large cities.
 2. Many cities with large factories have a smog problem.
 3. The great dividing range extends across the east side.
 4. Mr. Jones presented the award to me.
 5. Alice sat near her.

2. **Infinitive Phrase** - (to + verb)

- Examples:**
1. To run daily is healthy.
 2. They pretend to speak Latin.
 3. Her idea to deliver the package was approved by her mother.

3. **Other Verbal Phrases** - (beginning with a verb ending in **-ing, -ed, -en, -d, -t, or -n.**)

Although these words are formed from verbs, they are **not** verbs when used without helping words.

- Examples:**
1. Hating homework, Bob put off doing it until late at night.
 2. The girl running quickly tripped and fell.
 3. Dusting the furniture and washing the floors are tiresome chores.
 4. Destroyed by fire, the church was never rebuilt.
 5. Eaten quickly, the candies were gone before I arrived.

CLAUSES - a clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb. There are two types of clauses:

1. **Independent Clause** - expresses a complete thought and has a subject and verb. It is the main thought of a sentence and **can be used alone as a simple sentence**.

Examples:

1. Mrs. Smith bakes wonderful pies.
2. During the rainstorm, the children were frightened by the thunder.
3. She enjoys playing the piano.

2. **Dependent Clause** – has a subject and verb but cannot be used as a simple sentence. A dependent clause is introduced by a subordinating word (subordinating conjunction or relative pronoun). Common subordinating conjunctions and relative pronouns are listed below.

Subordinating Conjunctions

after	if	when
although	in order that	whenever
as	since	where
as if	so that	whereas
because	than	wherever
before	though	whether
even if	unless	while
even though	until	why

Relative Pronouns

who
whoever
whom
whomever
whose
which
whichever
that
what
whatever

Whenever a clause begins with one of the above subordinating words (unless it is a question, which would never give you any trouble), it is dependent. If we take an independent clause such as:

We finished the game.

and put one of the subordinating words in front of it, it becomes dependent:

After we finished the game
Although we finished the game
As we finished the game
Before we finished the game
If we finished the game
Since we finished the game
That we finished the game
When we finished the game
While we finished the game

The clause can no longer stand alone. As you read it, you can hear that it doesn't make a complete statement. It leaves the reader expecting something more. It is an incomplete thought or fragment and must not be punctuated as a sentence.

To correct such an incomplete thought or fragment, simply add a comma after the dependent clause and then add an independent clause, or start the sentence with an independent clause followed by the dependent clause:

After we finished the game, we went to the clubhouse.

While we finished the game, the others waited.

We gave up the court when we had finished the game.

We were happy that we had finished the game.

In other words, **every sentence must have at least one independent clause.**

Note in the example above that when a dependent clause comes at the beginning of a sentence, it is followed by a comma. Often the comma prevents misreading, as in the following:

When he entered, the room became quiet.

Note that sometimes the subordinating word is the subject of the dependent clause:

- Examples:**
1. I took the highway that was finished just last month.
 2. The girl who was standing by the window is gone.

Sometimes the dependent clause is in the middle of the independent clause:

- Examples:**
1. The highway that was finished last month goes to Indianapolis.
 2. The book which is on the shelf is excellent.

Note: The word **that** does not always introduce a dependent clause; it may be a pronoun (That is my book) or a describing word (I like that book).

EXERCISES -- PHRASES AND CLAUSES

A. In the spaces to the left of each number write P for phrase, IC for independent clause, and DC for dependent clause.

Examples: P With their friends

 IC It is the only solution

 DC Unless they could borrow the car

EXERCISE 1:

_____ 1. Throwing papers along the streets

_____ 2. While debris covered the park

_____ 3. With broken glass in the alley

_____ 4. Beside old trucks and cars

_____ 5. No one lives there

_____ 6. For lights on every corner

- _____ 7. If the expense is too great
- _____ 8. As he walked home
- _____ 9. Dragged up the subway steps
- _____ 10. Thousands of people walk every day
- _____ 11. Racing against the traffic signal
- _____ 12. Unless it rains
- _____ 13. When a helicopter hovers overhead
- _____ 14. Who play basketball in the empty lot
- _____ 15. That lives in town
- _____ 16. To think intelligently
- _____ 17. Except Mary and Tom
- _____ 18. No one cared about the party
- _____ 19. After the storm ended
- _____ 20. After the storm on Friday
- _____ 21. While baking the bread
- _____ 22. Leaving me behind
- _____ 23. Which was stolen

- _____ 24. A few were left
- _____ 25. Given a new lease on life
- _____ 26. As a loving gesture
- _____ 27. That she was going
- _____ 28. Since finding her keys and book
- _____ 29. Scolded by his mother
- _____ 30. Raise the flag
- _____ 31. Giving him a lift
- _____ 32. If they can
- _____ 33. Run
- _____ 34. Which sank
- _____ 35. Forgetting to do his assignment
- _____ 36. Without a doubt
- _____ 37. Even though it seems unlikely
- _____ 38. Please leave now
- _____ 39. Driven to drink
- _____ 40. Which was the wrong answer

EXERCISE 2:

- _____ 1. Driving can be fun
- _____ 2. Drive slowly
- _____ 3. I suppose
- _____ 4. To run quickly
- _____ 5. Traveling at a fast pace
- _____ 6. Which sank

- _____ 7. Until tomorrow morning
- _____ 8. While it poured
- _____ 9. Buy bread at the store
- _____ 10. Living by herself
- _____ 11. Fifteen went home

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|--|---|
| _____ 12. That we bought | _____ 26. Many were walking |
| _____ 13. To act responsibly | _____ 27. Unless we meet at once |
| _____ 14. Who decided to leave | _____ 28. Because of your interest |
| _____ 15. While talking on the phone | _____ 29. As I should have guessed |
| _____ 16. While we talked | _____ 30. Racing to the sea last evening |
| _____ 17. Aside from that | _____ 31. Race to the sea |
| _____ 18. I say | _____ 32. Several were wrong |
| _____ 19. Though the motor was running | _____ 33. Until the matter is settled |
| _____ 20. Since Monday Mary has
disappeared | _____ 34. Dealt a losing hand |
| _____ 21. Unless she knew the truth | _____ 35. Do your work quickly |
| _____ 22. To be the last-place team in
the league | _____ 36. If problems arise |
| _____ 23. When on time | _____ 37. That may win |
| _____ 24. If you like | _____ 38. Since few can go |
| _____ 25. By popular consent | _____ 39. Getting all the answers correct |
| | _____ 40. Although the time has come |

B. Underline the dependent clauses and circle the subordinating words that introduce the dependent clauses.

EXERCISE 1:

1. I refused to go because I had homework to do.
2. I could make good grades if I studied.
3. After I finish college, I'll get a job.
4. They were playing Frisbee while he was studying.
5. Her essay would have been better if she had rewritten it.
6. Unless you return your library book today, you'll have to pay a fine of ten cents per day.

7. A large vocabulary is the characteristic that most often accompanies outstanding success.
8. He was searching for the money that he had dropped in the snow on Christmas Day.
9. Although he looked a long time, he couldn't find it.
10. Until you understand subjects and verbs, you cannot understand clauses and their purposes in sentences.

EXERCISE 2:

1. You can't do your best when you are tired.
2. I'd have been waiting still if you hadn't called.
3. The crowd cheered when one of the Navy players came onto the field.
4. They roared with excitement as he raced down to the goal line.
5. I have always hoped that I could someday go to the Super Bowl.
6. He took his car although he really preferred his motorcycle.
7. If it's nice tomorrow, we'll hike up Old Baldy.
8. While the leaves are still on the trees, let's take some pictures.
9. I thought that you were coming with me.
10. While she is away, someone will take her place.

EXERCISES -- INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT CLAUSES

C. In the following exercises, if the clause is independent and, therefore, a sentence, put a period after it. If the clause is dependent and, therefore, a fragment, add an independent clause either before or after it to make it into a sentence. (Remember that if the dependent clause comes first in the sentence, it should have a comma after it.)

EXERCISE 1:

1. As he ran to catch the ball
2. He finally caught it
3. She couldn't find the necessary reference material
4. Because no one had told me about the new ruling

5. When I make up my mind to work
6. I'm going to stay at home tonight
7. If I can just spend a couple of hours on my math
8. I should study my psychology
9. When I'm finished with both of them
10. I'll feel confident for those tests

EXERCISE 2:

1. The people flocked around the injured man
2. As the ambulance came racing down the street
3. When a book is really interesting
4. Come into the office
5. As we learned more about the problem
6. Because I had so much homework for that evening
7. Unless something goes wrong
8. While everyone else was studying
9. I decided to go
10. The far-off hills are green

D. Now create two sentences for each of the following subordinating conjunctions. Put the dependent clause at the beginning of one sentence and at the end of the second sentence.

- Example:**
1. When you go to school, you must work hard.
 2. You must work hard when you go to school.

Remember: When the dependent clause comes first, a comma must come after it.

1. although

2. after

3. while

4. since

5. unless

REVIEW

A. Write P for phrase, IC for independent clause, and DC for dependent clause.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ 1. By the person | _____ 10. Gone fishing |
| _____ 2. All fell | _____ 11. Spoken in haste |
| _____ 3. When the sun rose | _____ 12. Knowing the answer |
| _____ 4. Raking the leaves | _____ 13. Unless you pass |
| _____ 5. Into the long road | _____ 14. When mowing the lawn |
| _____ 6. Holding my hand | _____ 15. Poetry is interesting |
| _____ 7. For the brave woman | _____ 16. When living in Ohio |
| _____ 8. It was | _____ 17. Before she left |
| _____ 9. Whom she saw | _____ 18. Crying for an hour |

_____ 19. To sing beautifully

_____ 20. Working is hard

B. In the following exercises, underline the dependent clause once. Put commas where needed. Remember: If a dependent clause comes before an independent clause, a comma must separate the two clauses.

1. The class that meets on Saturday is a popular one.
2. Since the actors were both women one had to portray a man.
3. The person who called the meeting to order is George.
4. Although you passed this test the last examination counts fifty percent of your final grade.
5. Sara did not like the photograph because she was not smiling.
6. The letter that arrived yesterday had no stamp.
7. The dancer whom we met last night is from Alaska.
8. If the apprentice found the error why was he fired?
9. The reporter talked to the man whose store was robbed.
10. The officers had important duties that they handled very well.
11. Since we like summer weather best we moved to Florida.
12. Jim has a summer job that takes him to the beach.
13. We planned a trip that included both the mountains and the seashore in North Carolina.
14. It is usually our own plans that we like best.
15. When my parents traveled abroad they hired Sally as a babysitter and tutor for my two sisters.
16. She found a summer job that couldn't be better.
17. The house where they live is on Main Street.
18. Although he left on time he did not make it to the meeting at the new Hilton on the beach.
19. Many people attend college so that they can improve themselves socially and intellectually.
20. As he started to speak someone fainted.

C. Follow the directions below:

Write one (1) sentence with an introductory dependent clause.

Write one (1) sentence with a dependent clause at the end.

Write one (1) sentence with a dependent clause in the middle of the independent clause.
Use who, that, or which.
