

Let's Look at Clauses

1 Main and Subordinate Clauses

Book 3 Unit 28; Book 4 Unit 2

Clauses are groups of words.

They are like phrases but clauses **make sense on their own** because they have a **finite verb**.

- A **main clause** is a simple **sentence**.

The fire was dying.

This is a **main clause**.

This is a **sentence**.

- We can add another **clause** to make the sentence more interesting.

The fire was dying so we
put on more logs.

This is a **subordinate clause**.

This is **not** a sentence.

- **Subordinate** (less important) **clauses** usually begin with a conjunction such as:

so when although because after before if

- A** Underline the **main clause** in each sentence.

1 The carpet was ruined because the log had burnt a hole in it.

2 Even though she felt unwell, she was going to meet her friend.

- B** Underline the **subordinate clause** in each sentence.

1 The pitch was dry although it had rained the previous night.

2 If you arrive early, will you save me a seat?

- C** Add a **subordinate clause** to each **main clause**.

1 The books were replaced on the shelves _____

2 _____

_____, I still missed the bus!

- D** Add a **main clause** to each **subordinate clause**.

1 if you look in that drawer, _____

2 many people saw a strange light _____

2 Adverb clauses

Book 4 Units 16, 23 & 27;
Book 5 Units 5 & 25; Book 6 Unit 26

- An **adverb clause**:
 - tells us more about the **verb** in a sentence
 - has a **subject**
 - has a **verb**
 - begins with a **conjunction**
 - answers the questions **why, when or how**.

The lights went out **because a tree had fallen on the power line**.

The light went out **after we had gone to bed**.

The lights go out **every time we have lightning**.

- An **adverb clause** can come at the beginning of a sentence.
It is separated from the main clause by a **comma**.

Because a tree had fallen on the power line, the lights went out.

After we had gone to bed, the lights went out.

Every time we have lightning, the lights go out.

- A** Underline the **adverb clause** in each sentence.

- 1 The supermarket closes before the car park does.
- 2 The hedge was overgrown because no one had cut it.
- 3 When she read the letter, she was very excited.

- B** Add an **adverb clause** to each main clause.

- 1 The horse jumped all of the fences _____

- 2 _____ the car just wouldn't start!

- C** Use these **adverb clauses** in sentences of your own.

- 1 so that he was ready on time

- 2 because I know that's the answer

