



## Key Vocabulary

**main clause:** A simple sentence that includes a subject and a verb.

**relative clause:** A dependent clause that adds more information about the noun or clause directly before it.

**dependent clause:** A dependent clause can be added to a main clause to make a complex sentence.

**subordinate clause:** Another word for a dependent clause. Subordinate clauses often start with subordinating conjunctions.

**subject:** The person, animal or object that is doing or being the verb.

**verb:** A doing or being word, such as: kicking; walk; touched.

**simple sentence:** A sentence that contains a subject and a verb with no conjunctions.

**complex sentence:** A multi-clause sentence that includes a main clause and a dependent clause.

## What is a complex sentence?

A **complex sentence** is made up of a **main clause** and then **one or more dependent clauses**.

There are two ways of creating dependent clauses:

- **by using a subordinating conjunction** (e.g. *after*) to create a subordinate clause, e.g.

The horse galloped after it jumped the fence.

- **by adding extra information using a relative clause.**

Mr Richardson, who was feeling ravenous, ate some cheese.

## Starting Out!

A **main clause** is a simple sentence that includes a **subject** and a **verb**.

The giraffe stretched its neck.

The giant carried the cow.

Craig sat down.



## Use It!

Now, choose a **subordinating conjunction**.

The giraffe stretched its neck **because...**

The giant carried the cow **although...**

Craig sat down **before...**

TOP TIP: **I SAW A WABUB** can help you to remember common subordinating conjunctions.

## Extend It!

Next, turn your simple sentences into **complex sentences** by completing your **subordinate clause**.

The giraffe stretched its neck **because the leaves were so high up.**

The giant carried the cow **although it wriggled and squirmed.**

Craig sat down **before eating the delicious bowl of custard.**

## Relative Clause

Will, *who enjoyed football*, played every week.

## Relative Pronouns

used at the beginning of a relative clause

who, whom, which, whose, that, where, when

Cheetahs, **which** are the fastest land mammals, have a decreasing population.



## Subordinating Conjunctions

There are 10 subordinating conjunctions. They are used at the beginning of a subordinate clause, which is a clause that doesn't make sense on its own.