



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH (2025-26)
CLASS – IX
CLAUSES, TYPES AND FUNCTIONS

Definition:

A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb that have a relationship. A sentence can have just one clause, or it can have multiple clauses. The only defining characteristic of a clause is that it must contain a related subject and verb.

Types of clauses:

We can categorise clauses into two. They are the following

Independent clauses:

An independent clause is a clause that can stand on its own as a distinct sentence. Take a look at these examples:

I love eating cookies.

My dog barks a lot.

The kids ate lunch.

His truck is green.

Dependent clauses:

In contrast, a dependent clause is *not* a complete sentence. Dependent clauses are sometimes known as subordinate clauses. As their name implies, these clauses depend on independent clauses to clearly express ideas. Here are a few examples of dependent clauses:

When I grow up

Although he sings well

The mouse that was hiding

To turn these dependent clauses into full sentences, you need to combine them with independent clauses:

When I grow up, I want to be a doctor.

Although he sings well, he hates karaoke.

Exercise 1.

Identify the following sentences as either dependent (DC) or independent (IC).

1. I went to the park
2. Sandra and Lara have been good friends since first grade.
3. Although Shaina likes Mexican, Iraqi, Somali, and Italian food
4. After swimming in the ocean
5. Animal communication is not considered to be a legitimate language by some scientists.
6. When Jim and Ayman eat lunch together in the breakroom.

Types of clauses bases on their function:

Clauses can perform three distinct functions: They can operate as adverbs, adjectives, or nouns.

Noun clauses:

If a clause functions as a noun, then it is called as Noun Clause

Here's an example of a noun clause:

She completely understood **everything he said**.

To test whether a clause is a noun clause, try swapping it out for a noun. If your sentence still makes sense, you've got a noun clause. Here are two more examples of noun clauses illustrated through swapped-in nouns:

They remembered what the keynote speaker covered.

They remembered the keynote speaker's presentation.

I don't know how the company handles onboarding.

I don't know their onboarding process.

Adverbial clauses:

Just like a noun clause is a clause taking on a noun's role, an adverbial clause is a clause acting as an adverb. For example:

She fixed the sink without facing difficulty.

They spent four years living outside the United States.

The pool was installed after they built the deck.

Adjective clauses:

Based on the other two categories, we bet you can guess how an adjective clause works. In case you can't, here it is: An adjective clause acts as an adjective in its sentence.

My friend who rides a motorcycle, said it's a great weekend to ride.

No matter what time of day we visit, we always run into **the dog that barks**.

Exercise 2

Identify the type of clause

Read the sentences and identify the clause and its type.

1. You may sit wherever you like.
2. As she was not there, I spoke to her sister.
3. Will you wait till I return?
4. I fear that I shall fail.
5. I do not know what he wants.
6. I think you have made a mistake.
7. Mary had a little lamb whose fleece was white as snow.
8. Here is the copy you want.
9. She never does anything that is stupid.
10. The house that I live in belongs to my grandfather.