Sentences



Finite verbs make a tense.

Clauses are small groups of words.

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

The man was cold.

This is a main clause.

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

|The man was cold | so he put on a coat.



This is the main clause. This is a subordinate clause.

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

so when although because after before if Subordinate means less important.

Focus

What is the main clause in each sentence?

- 1 We were ready to go when it started to rain.
- 2 The procession came down the main street after it came out of the park.
- **3** We didn't win the match although we played very well.
- 4 I don't use a calculator when I do my sums.
- 5 I have to tidy up if I make a mess.
- 6 The volcano erupted before lava poured down its sides.

