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CONJUNCTIONS  
AND CONNECTORS

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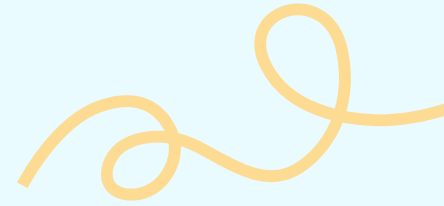
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# What is a Clause?



A clause is a group of words that has a subject and verb.  
**IMPORTANT:** Not a complete idea

The simplest way to understand it:  
A clause is a mini sentence.

**Example:**

- She runs  
subject = she  
verb = runs  
This is a clause

**VERY IMPORTANT:**  
There are 2 types of clauses:  
Dependent and Independent



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# What is an independent Clause?

## 1. Independent Clause (complete **idea**)

A complete sentence. It makes sense alone.

Example:

- I am tired

You understand it 100%

**It** can stand alone

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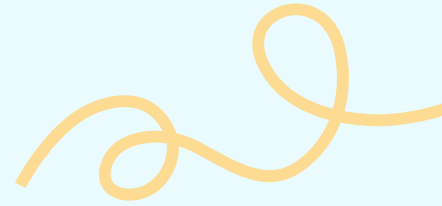
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# What is a dependent Clause?







**Dependent Clause (incomplete idea)**  
**Not a complete sentence.**  
**It needs more information.**

**Example: because I am tired**

**This feels incomplete**  
**You wait for more information**

 **Put them together:**  
• **I stayed home because I am tired**  
**Independent: I stayed home**  
**Dependent: because I am tired**

 **A clause = subject + verb**

 **Common mistake (VERY IMPORTANT):**  
 **Because I was tired. (WRONG – incomplete)**  
 **I stayed home because I was tired. (CORRECT)**



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# What is a Conjunction?

A conjunction is a small word that connects clauses. There are 2 types of conjunctions

**Coordinating Conjunctions** (FANBOYS) These connect (two independent clauses)

**F** → for    **A** → and    **N** → nor    **B** → but    **O** → or    **Y** → yet    **S** → so

I wanted to study, **but** I was tired.

Examples : She studied hard, **so** she passed the exam.

I can go now, **or** I can go later.

## Subordinating Conjunctions

These connect (One independent clause, and one dependent clause)

- because
- although
- even though
- while
- when
- if
- since
- unless

Examples:

I didn't go to class **because** I was sick.

**Although** I studied.

I will go **if** I have time.



# What is a connector ?

Connectors are words that link sentences and show how ideas are related.

**Connectors (Transition Words)** These are NOT conjunctions, but they connect ideas between sentences.

**More formal** → Very important for TOEFL iBT 2026 writing

## ● Contrast

**however** → **nevertheless** → **on the other hand**

**Example:** I was tired. However, I continued studying.

## ● Result

**therefore** → **thus** → **as a result**

**Example:** I studied hard. Therefore, I passed.

## ● Addition

**furthermore** → **moreover** → **in addition**

**Example:** The class is useful. Moreover, it is interesting.

