

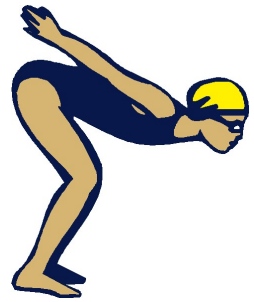
Clauses

What are clauses?

A clause is a group of words that contains a verb.

E.g when she **went** swimming

the young boy **laughed**



Do clauses make sense on their own?

Main Clauses

Main clauses (independent clauses) make sense on their own.

Subordinate Clauses

Subordinate clauses (dependent clauses) don't make sense on their own. They are dependent on the main clause to make sense.

E.g **After you've eaten your dinner**, you can play outside.

Sandra bought some shoes **when she went shopping**.

Relative Clauses

Max, **who was fantastic at football**, especially enjoyed PE.

'Who' is a relative pronoun, so this clause containing extra information is called a relative clause.

There are other relative pronouns: that, which, who, whom, whose, what.



Embedded Clauses

If relative clauses are between the main clause, we call them embedded clauses.

E.g Big Ben, **which is in London**, sounded for the final time.

This could also be called an *embedded relative clause*.

Luke, **as soon as he heard the news**, rushed to the hospital.

The example above is still an embedded clauses as it is in between a main clause, but it is not a relative clause as it does not start with a relative pronoun.