

Varied Fluency

Step 1: Identifying Clauses

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 6: (6G5.10) [Using colons to mark boundaries between independent clauses](#)

English Year 6: (6G5.11) [Using semi-colons to mark boundaries between independent clauses](#)

English Year 6: (6G5.12) [Using dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses](#)

Terminology for pupils:

- (6G5.10) [colon](#)
- (6G5.11) [semi-colon](#)

Differentiation:

Developing Questions to support identifying main and subordinate clauses in sentences with two clauses only.

Expected Questions to support identifying main and subordinate clauses in sentences with up to three clauses.

Greater Depth Questions to support identifying clauses in multi-clause sentences. The position of the clauses within sentences may vary.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

Did you like this resource? Don't forget to [review](#) it on our website.

Identifying Clauses

Identifying Clauses

1a. Underline the main clause in the sentence below.

Although it was raining, Jaxon managed to stay dry.



VF

1b. Underline the main clause in the sentence below.

Even though he was exhausted, he was able to finish the race.



VF

2a. Add a comma to the sentence below to separate the main and subordinate clause.

Having already booked a table Harrison arrived at the restaurant promptly.



VF

2b. Add a comma to the sentence below to separate the main and subordinate clause.

Although Iqra was feeling the biting cold she ventured on into the frozen forest.



VF

3a. In which sentence is the subordinate clause underlined?

A. Although we were tired, my group finished the race first.

B. Although we were tired, my group finished the race first.



VF

3b. In which sentence is the main clause underlined?

A. After the weather had slowed them down, they arrived with time to spare.

B. After the weather had slowed them down, they arrived with time to spare.



VF

4a. Tick to show whether the underlined clause is a main (M) or subordinate (S) clause.

Jess jumped up with joy as her team scored a goal.

M

S

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Even though it was sunny, it still felt very wintry.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VF

4b. Tick to show whether the underlined clause is a main (M) or subordinate (S) clause.

Isaac was so excited that his best friend was coming soon.

M

S

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Although the snow was bad, the match would still go ahead.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VF

Identifying Clauses

Identifying Clauses

5a. Underline the main clause in the sentence below.

Even though she knew she wouldn't cope well with the heat, Millie travelled to Africa as part of her research into the habitat of lions.



VF

5b. Underline the main clause in the sentence below.

As tricky as it was to reach the summit, Billy knew that he must continue on his mission.



VF

6a. Add a pair of commas to the sentence below to separate the main and subordinate clause.

Having already visited the museum previously although it was for a short time she did not want to visit again so soon.



VF

6b. Add a pair of commas to the sentence below to separate the main and subordinate clause.

On his way back from school even though he knew it was forbidden he stopped to buy some sweets.



VF

7a. In which sentence is the subordinate clause underlined?

A. Sarah, who was a competitive person by nature, really wanted to win the prize.

B. Sarah, who was a competitive person by nature, really wanted to win the prize.



VF

7b. In which sentence is the main clause underlined?

A. Class 6, in spite of the horrendous traffic, arrived at the museum just in time.

B. Class 6, in spite of the horrendous traffic, arrived at the museum just in time.



VF

8a. Tick to show whether the underlined clause is a main (M) or subordinate (S) clause.

She shivered, even though it was a warm evening, as she walked through the graveyard.

M S

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As the snow fell silently outside, we snuggled up in front of the cosy fire.

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VF

8b. Tick to show whether the underlined clause is a main (M) or subordinate (S) clause.

Freddie, who was adamant that he knew where he was going, was lost.

M S

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Unless there is a disaster, the party should go ahead as planned.

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VF

Identifying Clauses

Identifying Clauses

9a. Underline the main clause in the sentence below.

Jake, who was frantically looking for his passport, needed to leave the house in five minutes because the rest of the group were waiting to leave for the airport.



VF

9b. Underline the main clause in the sentence below.

Hafsa, who was feeling rather guilty, quickly gathered up her belongings as she knew that her mum would be worried if she arrived home late.



VF

10a. Add a comma to the sentence below to separate the main and subordinate clause.

Even though she thought she had already paid for the ticket Suzie quickly realised that this wasn't the case when the security guard stopped her from entering the venue.



VF

10b. Add a comma to the sentence below to separate the main and subordinate clause.

While being careful not to disturb what lay within she entered the structure tentatively as the villagers had warned her about the curse that previous explorers had fallen victim to.



VF

11a. In which sentence are the subordinate clauses underlined?

A. Although he wanted to be chosen, Jack knew his chances were slim because of the physical challenge.

B. Although he wanted to be chosen, Jack knew his chances were slim because of the physical challenge.



VF

11b. In which sentence is the main clause underlined?

A. Jaxon, since his deadline was looming, arrived at school early in the hopes that he could finish his project on time.

B. Jaxon, since his deadline was looming, arrived at school early in the hopes that he could finish his project on time.



VF

12a. Tick to show whether the underlined clause is a main (M) or subordinate (S) clause.

M S

Ivy, who was struggling with her homework, called her friend for advice as she was worried that she would have to hand it in late.

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Due to roadworks, the route to the museum was altered as they were worried they wouldn't arrive on time.

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VF

12b. Tick to show whether the underlined clause is a main (M) or subordinate (S) clause.

M S

The playground, which was at the edge of the village, was currently closed due to work being carried out to upgrade the equipment.

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Unless you have anything to add, the meeting will finish as planned as I need to leave promptly for an appointment.

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VF

Varied Fluency Identifying Clauses

Developing

- 1a. Although it was raining, Jaxon managed to stay dry.
- 2a. Having already booked a table, Harrison arrived at the restaurant promptly.
- 3a. A
- 4a. main, subordinate

Expected

- 5a. Even though she knew she wouldn't cope well with the heat, Millie travelled to Africa as part of her research into the habitat of lions.
- 6a. Having already visited the museum previously, although it was for a short time, she did not want to visit again so soon.
- 7a. A
- 8a. subordinate, main

Greater Depth

- 9a. Jake, who was frantically looking for his passport, needed to leave the house in five minutes because the rest of the group were waiting to leave for the airport.
- 10a. Even though she thought she had already paid for the ticket, Suzie quickly realised that this wasn't the case when the security guard stopped her from entering the venue.
- 11a. A
- 12a. main, subordinate

Varied Fluency Identifying Clauses

Developing

- 1b. Even though he was exhausted, he was able to finish the race.
- 2b. Although Iqra was feeling the biting cold, she ventured on into the frozen forest.
- 3b. A
- 4b. main, main

Expected

- 5b. As tricky as it was to reach the summit, Billy knew that he must continue on his mission.
- 6b. On his way back from school, even though he knew it was forbidden, he stopped to buy some sweets.
- 7b. A
- 8b. main, main

Greater Depth

- 9b. Hafsa, who was feeling rather guilty, quickly gathered up her belongings as she knew that her mum would be worried if she arrived home late.
- 10b. While being careful not to disturb what lay within, she entered the structure tentatively as the villagers had warned her about the curse that previous explorers had fallen victim to.
- 11b. B
- 12b. subordinate, subordinate