

Mastering Subordinate Clauses with Max the Monkey

Unlock your writing potential: Add extra detail to your sentences!

- A subordinate clause provides extra information, but it does not make sense on its own. It always needs a main clause to support it.
- Subordinate clauses often begin with subordinating conjunctions such as: although, because, since, unless, or while.
- If a subordinate clause comes at the start of a sentence, you must use a comma to separate it from the main clause.
- Example: 'Because it was raining, Max stayed inside to solve his maths puzzles.' Here, 'Because it was raining' is the subordinate clause.
- If the subordinate clause comes after the main clause, you usually do not need a comma. Example: 'Max stayed inside because it was raining.'
- Adding subordinate clauses is a brilliant way to improve your writing by adding extra detail, time, or reason to your sentences.

Did you know? Did you know? A subordinate clause is like a clever monkey holding onto a tree branch—it cannot stand alone! If you try to use it as a full sentence, it will feel incomplete, just like a monkey hanging in mid-air without a tree.

Key vocabulary: Subordinate clause · Main clause · Subordinating conjunction · Relative pronoun · Complex sentence · Comma