

Mastering Subordinate Clauses with Pip the Bookworm

Unfold the layers of your writing and build brilliant, complex sentences!

- A subordinate clause contains a subject and a verb, but it cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.
- Subordinate clauses often begin with subordinating conjunctions such as: although, because, since, unless, or while.
- If a subordinate clause starts the sentence, you must use a comma to separate it from the main clause.
- When the main clause comes first, you generally do not need a comma before the subordinate clause.
- Using subordinate clauses allows you to provide extra information about time, reason, or condition, making your writing more sophisticated.

Did you know? Did you know? Pip the Bookworm loves subordinate clauses because they act like extra 'branches' on a tree. While a main clause can stand alone as a complete thought, a subordinate clause relies on the main clause to make sense. Without the main clause, the subordinate clause is just a sentence fragment waiting for its partner!

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