

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.

While it was raining, Jaxon managed to stay dry.



VF

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

Even though he was exhausted, he managed 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 cold she ventured on into the frozen forest.



VF

3a. True or false? The subordinate clause has been underlined in the sentence below.

Although they were very tired, the group managed to come first in their challenge.



VF

3b. True or false? The main clause has been underlined in the sentence below.

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



VF

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

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

M S

Even though it was sunny, it still felt very wintry.



VF

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

Isaac couldn't contain his excitement as his best friend would be arriving soon.

M S

Although the weather was bad, the match would still go ahead as planned.



VF

Identifying Clauses

Identifying Clauses

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

As part of Millie's research into the habitat of lions, even though she knew she wouldn't cope well with the heat, she travelled to Africa.



VF

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

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 even if it was briefly 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 he wasn't allowed he stopped to buy some sweets.



VF

7a. True or false? The main clause has been underlined in the sentence below.

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



VF

7b. True or false? The subordinate clause has been underlined in the sentence below.

Class 6, in spite of the horrendous traffic on their way, arrived at the museum just in time.



VF

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

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

M S

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



VF

8b. Tick the correct box 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

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



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 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 things and left the park as she knew that her mum would be worrying.



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 tickets Suzie quickly realised that this wasn't the case when the security guard stopped her from entering the venue.



VF

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

She entered the structure slowly careful not to disturb what lay within as she knew that the rumours were likely to be true and she definitely didn't want the same fate for herself.



VF

11a. True or false? The subordinate clause has been underlined in the sentence below.

Jack desperately wanted to be chosen despite knowing that he would struggle with the task because of the physical challenge it would pose.



VF

11b. True or false? The main clause has been underlined in the sentence below.

Due to the short time left at the end of the day, Jaxon had to rush to get his science experiment finished so that he didn't have to take it home to complete.



VF

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

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.

M S

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



VF

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

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

M S

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



VF

Varied Fluency Identifying Clauses

Developing

- 1a. Despite the pouring rain, Jaxon managed to stay dry.
2a. Having already booked a table, Harrison arrived at the restaurant promptly.
3a. True
4a. main, subordinate

Expected

- 5a. As part of Millie's research into the habitat of lions, even though she knew she wouldn't cope well with the heat, she travelled to Africa.
6a. Having already visited the museum previously, even if it was briefly, she did not want to visit again so soon.
7a. False (subordinate clause)
8a. subordinate, main

Greater Depth

- 9a. Jake, who was frantically looking for his passport, needed to leave 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 tickets, Suzie quickly realised that this wasn't the case when the security guard stopped her from entering the venue.
11a. False (main clause)
12a. main, subordinate

Varied Fluency Identifying Clauses

Developing

- 1b. Even though he was exhausted, he managed to finish the race.
2b. Although Iqra was feeling the cold, she ventured on into the frozen forest.
3b. False (subordinate clause)
4b. main, main

Expected

- 5b. 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 he wasn't allowed, he stopped to buy some sweets.
7b. False (main clause)
8b. main, main

Greater Depth

- 9b. Hafsa, who was feeling rather guilty, quickly gathered up her things and left the park as she knew that her mum would be worrying.
10b. She entered the structure slowly, careful not to disturb what lay within as she knew that the rumours were likely to be true, and she definitely didn't want the same fate for herself. Or, she entered the structure slowly, careful not to disturb what lay within, as she knew that the rumours were likely to be true and she definitely didn't want the same fate for herself
11b. False (subordinate clause)
12b. subordinate, subordinate