

Grammar for Parents

Sentences, phrases and clauses

Different types of sentences	
Simple.	<i>The boy jumped up.</i>
Compound uses coordinating conjunctions <i>For, and, nor, but, or, yet, so</i>	<i>The boy jumped up and ran across the room.</i>
Complex uses subordinate conjunctions E.g <i>because until even though despite if as if although</i>	<p>Using a subordinate conjunction creates a complex sentence. There must be two clauses in the sentence – one subordinate and one main clause.</p> <p>He worked until the job was completed. This is a complex sentence because there is a verb after the word “until”.</p>
Phrases There are four different types of adverbial phrase: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manner – <i>quickly</i> 2. Prepositional phrase – <i>In the last hour...</i> 3. Noun phrase – <i>Last night at the Royal Albert Hall...</i> 4. Subordinate conjunction and clause – <i>Until the concert finished...</i> 	<p>A phrase has no verb E.g <i>running down the hill</i> <i>going to the shops</i></p> <p>Adverbial phrase Tells us more about the verb (Where when how why) and can be more than one word. Eg Tom hid the box.... <i>under the stairs</i> <i>before breakfast</i> <i>by covering it with blankets</i> <i>so ben wouldn't find it</i></p> <p><u>Fronted adverbials</u> – All of the above can be used at the beginning of a sentence; this is known as a fronted adverbial. The fronted adverbial is separated from the rest of the sentence with a comma.</p> <p><i>Until the music finished, she continued to dance.</i> <i>In the last hour, he completed his homework.</i> <i>Quickly, the children ran from the room.</i> <i>Last night at the Royal Albert Hall, the concert was performed to a packed house.</i></p>
Clauses Subordinate /relative	<p>A clause contains a verb e.g. <i>because he liked picking flowers</i> <i>when it is time to go home</i> <i>Ben plays football.</i></p> <p>A subordinate (or dependent clause) starts with a subordinating conjunction and doesn't make sense on its own. <i>when it is time to go home</i> <i>until it stopped raining.</i></p> <p>A relative(or embedded) clause is a type of subordinate clause and uses a relative pronoun(who which that) E.g The man, who was very ill, went to see the doctor.</p>

	To create a complex or compound sentence, each part of the sentence must be a clause.
Connectives and conjunctions	Connectives link phrases, sentences and paragraphs' Because of this as well as in addition especially however despite Conjunctions are connectives and link different ideas. although if after while and or but
Identify commands/questions/statements/exclamations and know how to change one to another	<u>Commands</u> start with the infinitive form of the verb: <i>Give me that pen.</i> To change to a question: <i>Can I have that pen?</i> <u>Questions</u> can start with an auxiliary verb or who, what, where, when, why, how, if etc. <i>Can you bake a cake for his birthday?</i> <u>Statements</u> : <i>She is very clever.</i> Can change to a question: <i>Is she clever?</i> <u>Exclamations</u> finish with an exclamation mark: <i>Oh no!</i>
Writer's tricks to create effect	
Similes	Can either be: 1. <i>As... as a...</i> 2. <i>Like a...</i>
Alliteration	Each word starts with the same letter. <i>Cranky crocodiles create ...</i> <i>Daring doves dive...</i>
Onomatopoeia	Onomatopoeia imitates the natural sounds of things. It creates a sound that mimics the thing being described. 1. Animal sounds, such as: <i>meow, moo</i> 2. A group of words can reflect a single word, such as "water": <i>splosh, splash, plop, sprinkle, gush, drizzle, drip</i> 3. Different word classes can be onomatopoeia: <i>The <u>buzzing</u> bee flew away. (adj)</i> <i>The stone fell into the water with a <u>splash</u>. (noun)</i>
Personification	Personification is when you give human characteristics to an object or animal. 1. <i>Lightning danced across the sky.</i> 2. <i>The car's headlights winked mischievously in the driving rain.</i> 3. <i>The roses begged for water.</i>
Metaphors	A metaphor uses a word or phrase to compare two people, things, animals or places. 1. <i>The snow is a soft white blanket covering the land.</i> 2. <i>He is a night owl.</i>