Clauses are small groups of words. They are like phrases, but clauses make sense on their own because they have a **finite verb**.

The hunter was frightened.

This is a **main clause.**

We can add another **clause** to make the sentence more interesting.

The hunter was frightened because the lion charged.

This is the **main clause.** This is the **subordinate clause.**

**Subordinate** (less important) clauses usually begins with a conjunction such as:

So when although because

After before if unless

1. Read each *main clause*.

Choose a suitable *subordinate* *clause* to finish each sentence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Main clause** | **Subordinate clause** |
| The lightning flashed | Because it was frightened. |
| I need to stay in bed | If you give me the address. |
| The dog barked | Although I am feeling a little better. |
| It was very cold | Before we heard the thunder. |
| I will send the email | So I found my thick, winter coat. |

2. Copy these sentences

Underline the *main clauses* in each sentence.

1). The telephone rang so she answered it.

2). Someone spoke but she couldn’t hear very well.

3). She finished the call because the connection was bad.

3. Copy the sentences

Underline the *subordinate clause* in each sentence.

1). We go to the cinema when they are showing a good film.

2). We went last week although I had already seen the film.

3). We went for a pizza before we went to the cinema.

4. Add a *subordinate clause* to each of these main clauses to finish the sentence.

1). The old boat sank ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2). My friend was hurt \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3). The building was on fire \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

4). I like to go fishing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Add a *main clause* to each of these subordinate clauses to finish the sentences.

1). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ although it was dark.

2). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before the spring comes.

3). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when everyone has gone.

4). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so don’t make a mess.