

LC. Can I understand and  
apply phrases and clauses?

# Let's recap last lesson

What do you remember about apostrophes?

Phrases and clauses are used to make up sentences.

What is the difference between a phrase and a clause?

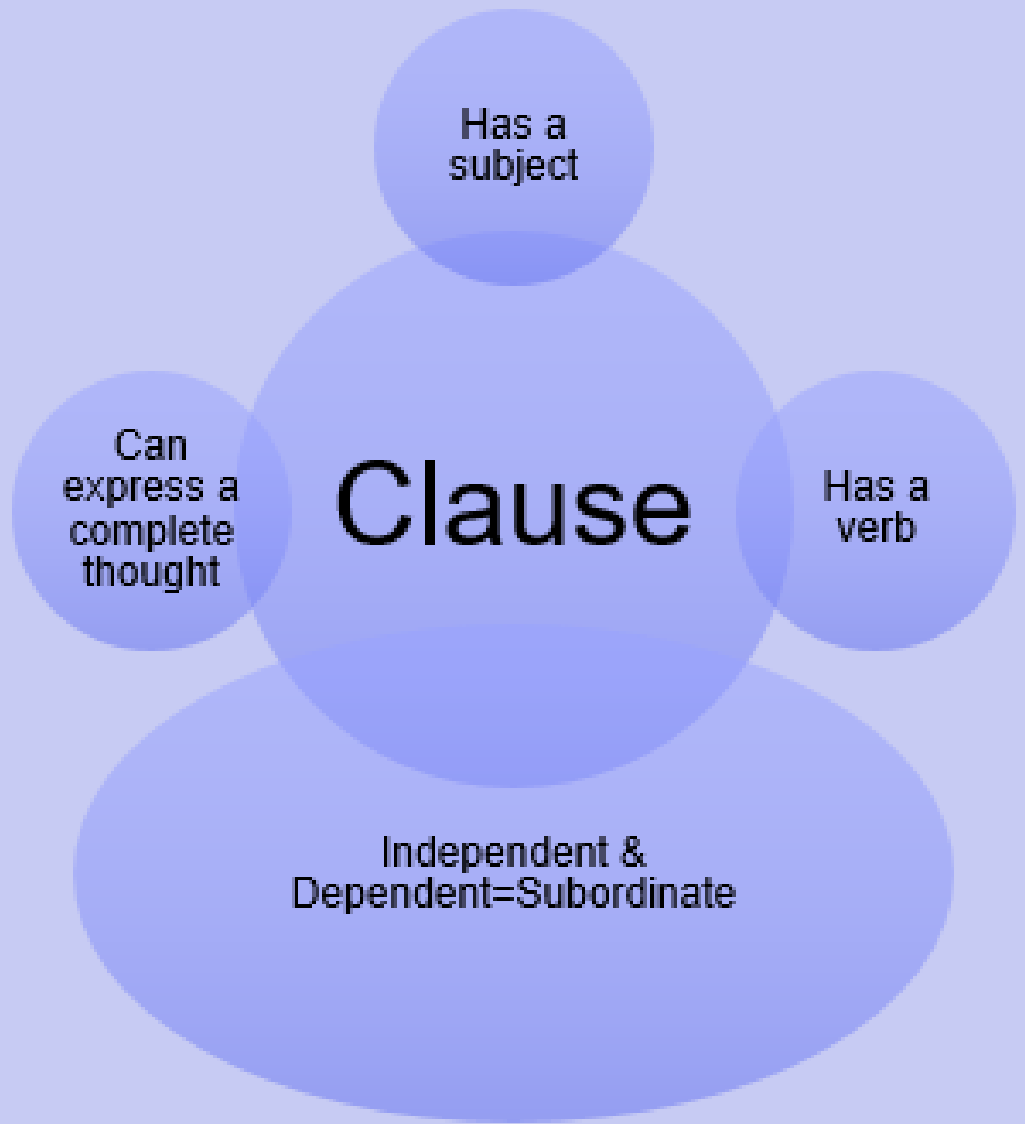
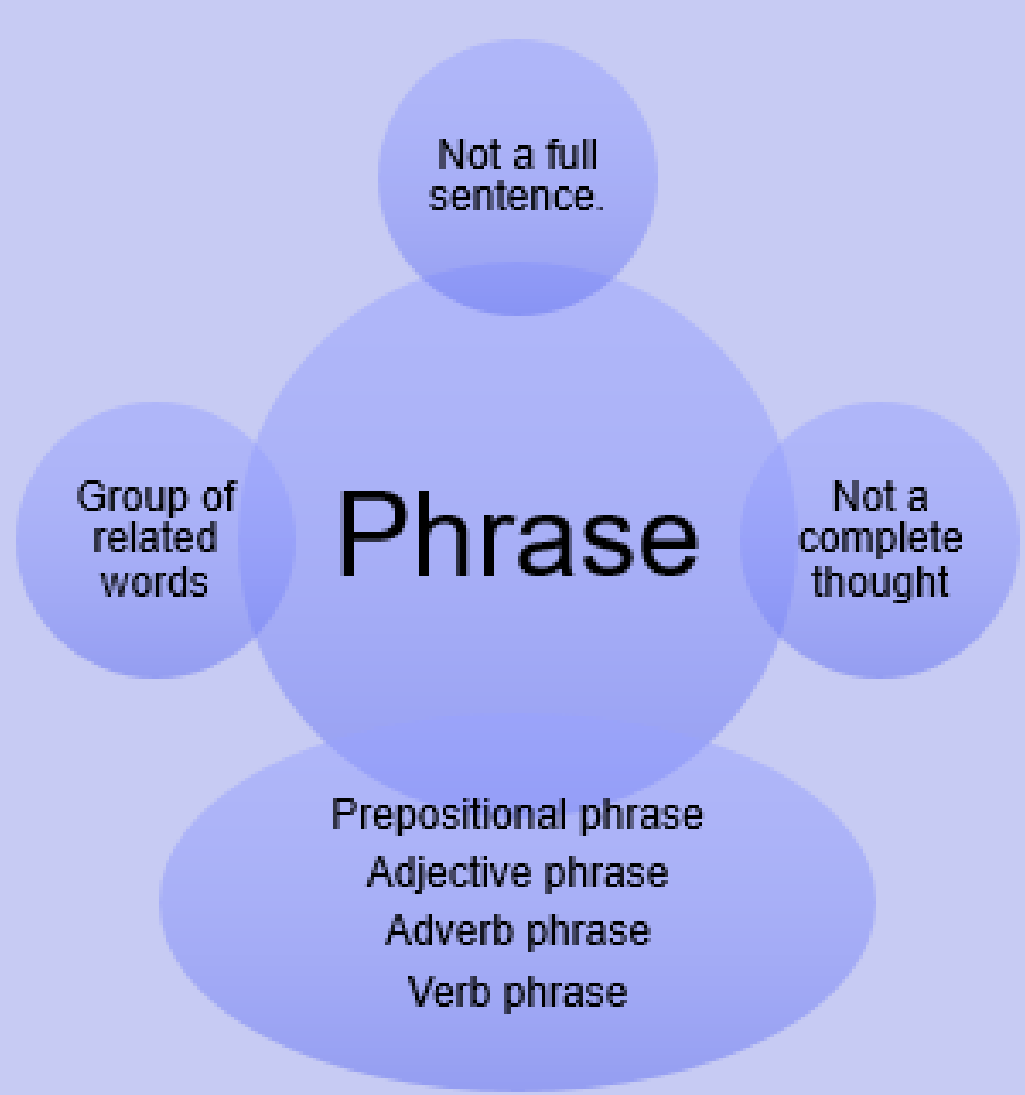
If you are unsure whether a group of words is a clause or phrase, break down the words into the parts of speech to help you decide. If there is a subject and a verb, it is a clause. If there is a noun but no verb or a verb but no noun, it is a phrase.

# Phrases

A phrase is a group of two or more words that does not have the subject and verb combination and does not form a predicate. It can contain a noun or a verb, but does not have a subject or predicate. Essentially, a phrase provides some sort of additional information or provides more context to the sentences you write. A phrase can never stand alone as a sentence; however, a phrase can nestle itself inside clauses that are either complete sentences on their own or ones that are dependent on the rest of the sentence.

# Clauses

A clause is a group of words that can act as a sentence, but is not necessarily a complete sentence on its own. All clauses contain both a subject and a predicate, which always contains a verb. A predicate tells something about what the subject is doing. Some clauses can stand alone as a complete sentence; others cannot.



	Phrase	Clause
The knight fought his way <u>through the forest</u> .		
The large batch of dough <u>took ages to rise</u> .		
<u>For four days</u> the child had a terrible hacking cough.		
<u>The doctor did a thorough examination of the patient and decided he would need to rest</u> for at least a week.		
<u>There are a huge number of people</u> living in the Borough of Barnet.		
Above the castle <u>lurked a menacing monster</u> .		
<u>All through the night</u> the rain fell.		
I'd like to go to Disneyland <u>for my dream holiday next summer</u> .		
Next Saturday evening, <u>we're having pizza and chips</u> .		

Complete the quiz...

Type 'softschools phrases and clauses' into Google and click on the top link.



# Test style questions

Label the parts of the sentence below as either a **phrase (P)** or a **clause (C)**.

Despite the bad weather, the man headed out into the woods,

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leaving his cottage behind.

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