

Lesson Name : 28

Lesson Title : Phrases and Clauses

Course Name : English 2 Part 2 [Honors]

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Essential Instruction

Use your digital notebook to keep notes on new grammar concepts that you may need to reference later.

Phrases and Clauses

For today's lesson, let's talk about the difference between **phrases** and **clauses**. Basically, a **clause** includes both a subject and a predicate (a verb) and communicates a complete thought, while a **phrase** does not. Here are two examples:

Clause: Before she finished her homework.

This is a clause because it includes both a subject (she) and a predicate (finished her homework).

Phrase: After the test.

This is a **phrase** because there is no subject or predicate. (Who did what? We can't answer either question.)

Dependent and Independent Clauses

Now let's take the discussion one step further. There are actually two different types of **clauses**: **dependent** (subordinate) **clauses** and **independent clauses**.

An independent clause can stand on its own, because it is a complete sentence.

I tried to finish my dinner.

Kathleen swam for two hours.

Note that these **independent clauses** contain both a subject and a predicate, and they can stand on their own: I tried; Kathleen swam.

A **dependent**, or subordinate, **clause** also contains a subject and predicate, but it leaves the reader "hanging." In other words, a **dependent clause** needs more information.

As we chopped the vegetables.

Although Carla loved the book.

Both of these **clauses** contain subjects (we/Carla) and predicates (chopped/loved), but neither one expresses a complete thought.

So, to summarize:

Phrase – A group of words without a subject-predicate combination.

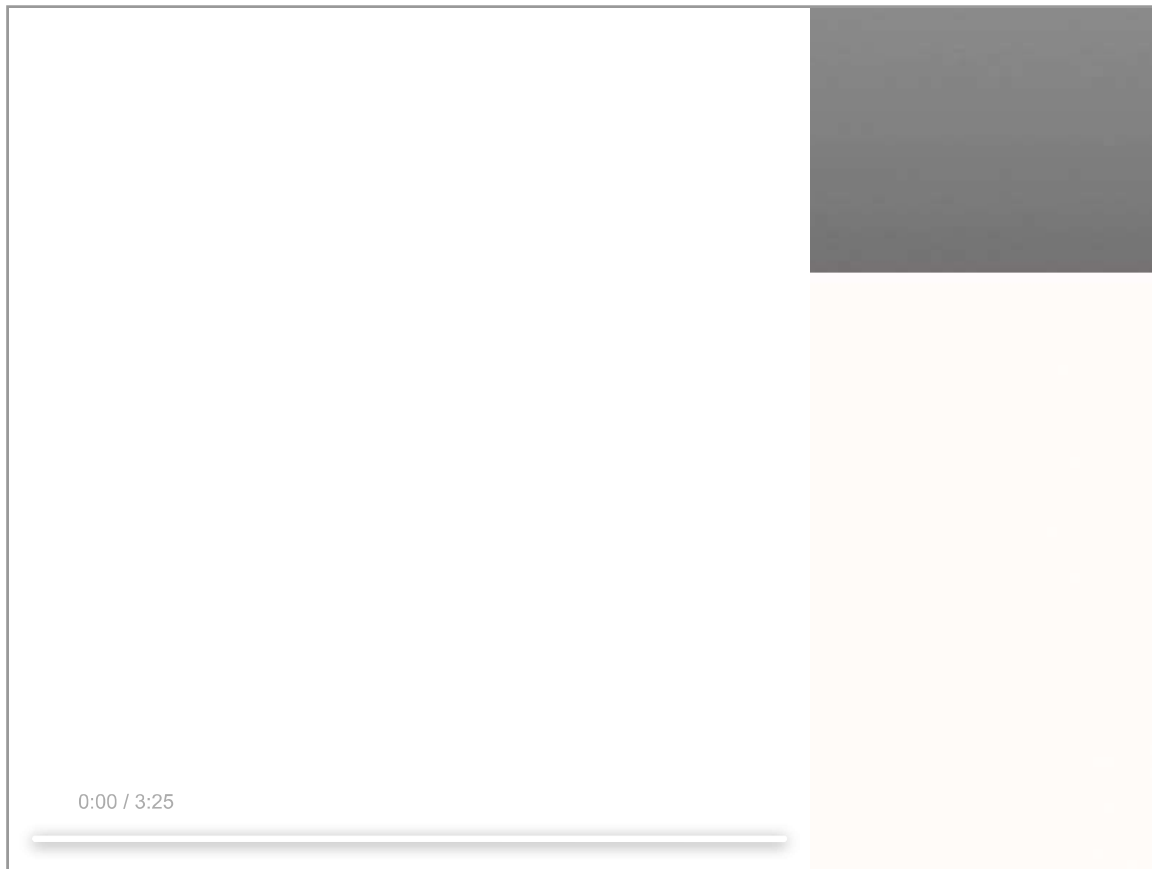
Independent clause – A group of words with a subject and predicate that can stand on its own as a sentence.

Dependent clause – A group of words with a subject and predicate that cannot stand on its own as a sentence.

Effective Listening Skills

Next let's focus on becoming effective listeners. Review the [steps for active listening](#) in a new window.

Now listen to a podcast about Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*. Open the [podcast](#) in a new window. Take special note of the first excerpt, in which the character Crusoe speaks of himself as being "lord of the whole manor." How can you define irony? What is the difference between irony and sarcasm? Can you identify irony in any other texts you have read?



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