

Year 6 SPAG Revision

Verbs

Present tense (present simple)	I work at Witney CPS. She drives a car.
Present progressive	I am working at Witney CPS. She is driving a car.
Present perfect	I have worked at Witney CPS for seven years. She has driven a car for seven years.
Past tense (past simple)	I worked at Witney CPS before I worked here. She drove a car before she bought a bike.
Past progressive	I was working at Witney CPS when I learned to drive. She was driving a car when she when she worked here.
Modal verb	I might work at Witney CPS next year. She could drive if she had a car

Past simple uses the suffix -ed or irregular verbs such as: drove, ate, slept etc.

Progressive forms of verbs use suffix -ing.

Modal verbs are: can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would

Determiners

Determiners are the words which come at the start of a noun phrase. The three most common are: **the, a** and **an**.

Other determiners are: **my, your, his, her, its, our, their, whose, this, that, these, those any, another, other, what, which**

Some determiners are also pronouns.

Pronouns

Pronouns are words we use instead of a noun. There are different types of pronoun.

Personal pronouns: I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them

Possessive pronouns: mine, yours, its, his, hers, ours, theirs

Relative pronouns: who, whom, which, whoever, whomever, whichever

Active/Passive

active		passive
The hunter killed the lion.	>>	The lion was killed by the hunter.
Someone has cleaned the windows.	>>	The windows have been cleaned.
Sue changed the flat tyre.	>>	The flat tyre was changed by Sue.

When the subject of the sentence is doing something the **verb** is active. When the object of the sentence is having something done to it, the **verb** is **passive**.

Clauses and phrases

Sentences are made up of collections of words called 'clauses' and 'phrases'. It is easy to recognise a clause because it could be a complete sentence on its own.

Phrases are small groups of words intended to convey meaning, but they do not make sense as sentences on their own. For example:

a small child

This describes the child but is not a complete sentence as it has no verb.

A main clause is a clause that contains a subject and an object. Main clauses make sense on their own.

I like bananas.

↑
main
clause

'I like bananas.' is a **simple sentence** which is made up of a main clause.

I like bananas and I like grapes.

↑
main
clause

↑
connective

↑
main
clause

This is a **compound sentence**: it is made up of two main clauses: 'I like bananas' and 'I like grapes'. The two main clauses are joined by the **connective** 'and'.

Sometimes a sentence is made up of two clauses: a main clause and a **subordinate clause**, which relies on the main clause. A **subordinate clause** contains a subject and a verb, but it needs to be attached to a main clause because it **cannot make sense on its own**. For example:

I first met her in Paris where I lived as a small child.

↑
main
clause

↑
connective

↑
subordinate
clause

This is a **complex sentence**. It has a main clause ('I first saw her in Paris') and a subordinate clause ('where I lived as a small child'), which relies on the main clause to make sense. The two clauses are joined by the **connective** 'where'. Main clauses don't always have to come before subordinate clauses in sentences. For example:

After she picks me up, Mum is taking me to buy shoes.

↑
subordinate
clause

↑
comma

↑
main
clause

A **relative clause** is a specific type of **subordinate clause** that adapts, describes or modifies a noun.

Relative clauses **add information to sentences by using a relative pronoun** such as who, that or which.

Relative pronoun	Noun that the pronoun refers to
who	Refers to a person
which	Refers to an animal, place or thing
that	Can refer to a person, place or thing

The relative clause is used to add information about the noun, so it must be 'related' to the noun.

Here are some examples of relative clauses (in purple):

She lives in Worcester, which is a cathedral city.
That's the girl who lives near school.
I don't like the clown that has a bright red nose.
I am cross with the cat, which has pooped in the garden.
Rachel liked the new chair, which was very comfortable.

A relative clause can also be an **embedded clause** if it is positioned in the middle of a sentence, for example:

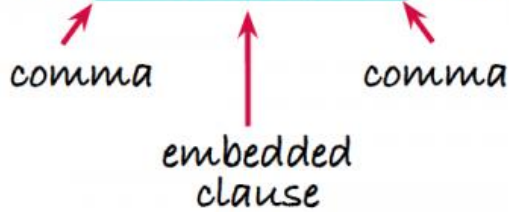
My gran, who is 82, still goes swimming every day.
Jamie, who scored the winning goal, was congratulated by his team.

Embedded clauses

An embedded clause is a **clause** used in the middle of another clause.

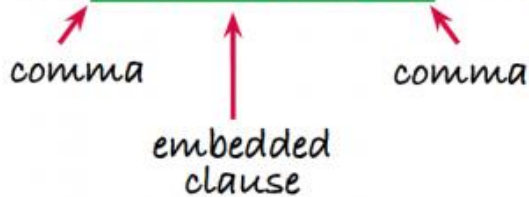
In other words, an embedded clause is a clause that is within a main clause, usually marked by commas. Information related to the sentence topic is put into the middle of the sentence to give the reader more information and enhance the sentence.

My bike, **which is very old**, is broken.



Commas are used to separate the clause that has been embedded from the main clause.

The witch, **who has green eyes**, is very spooky.



If you removed the embedded clause the main clause would stand alone as a complete sentence. However **the embedded clause would not make sense on its own** (it's a subordinate clause).

For example:

The coat, which was old, had a hole in the pocket.

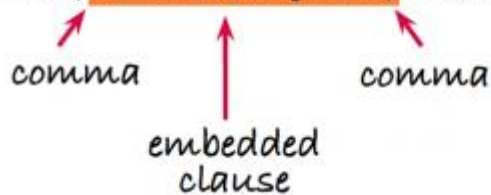
The main clause makes sense on its own: *The coat had a hole in the pocket.*

The embedded clause doesn't make sense on its own: *which was old*

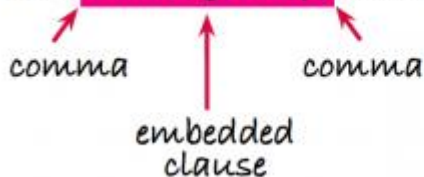
The embedded clause needs the main clause in order to make sense.

An embedded clause **often begins using the words which, who or where** and relates to the noun or pronoun in the main clause.

The doctor, **who was very kind**, took my blood pressure.



This house, **where I grew up**, looked very different years ago.



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