

Clause vs. Phrase

A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a predicate. A main clause (independent clause) expresses a complete thought and can stand alone as a sentence. A phrase does not have a subject and a verb.

PHRASE: While watching the wedding, I cried.

CLAUSE: While I watched the wedding, I cried.



DIRECTIONS: Does the sentence contain a phrase or a clause?

_____ 1. During the movie, I got more popcorn.

_____ 2. If I am going to be honest, I didn't like it.

_____ 3. When I called, you said you were busy.

_____ 4. After eating, I often take a walk.

_____ 5. Before John does yoga, he meditates.

_____ 6. Throughout the week, Hank checked on me.

_____ 7. Sighing heavily, George got to work.

_____ 8. Since you are here, can you help me?

_____ 9. When working, you should wear your helmet.