

## Recognizing phrases & dependent clauses

Underline phrases in the following sentences once. Underline dependent clauses twice.

**Phrases.** Remember, phrases do not have both subject and verb.

Prepositional [*in the house, by the road, near the popcorn bag, around the town*]

Gerund [*Ringing bells* can be disconcerting, The deer started *eating grass by the road*]

Participial [*Asking tough questions*, the field mouse got nowhere. The children, *lighting the candles*, beamed with glory.

Infinitive [*To speak softly* is fashionable. The boors decided *to shout their glee aloud*]

### Dependent

**Clauses.** Clauses *do* have both subject and verb.

Relative [The president *who wore those stylish shoes* walked daintily to the automobile. They called to the ghost *which haunted the hallway*.]

Subordinate [*Before they went haunting*, the ghouls broke their fast. They floated after the students *because they wanted their lunch money*.]

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1) At our prodding, Buck and Nightboy admitted that they had discussed our late arrival.

2) As the dusk grew steadily darker, they knew that we could have had engine trouble.

3) In fact, we had experienced a near miss at the shoal.

4) But they decided [ ] we were fine.

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5) If we were lost, they had decided to find us in the morning.

6) “What are a few bug bites?” asked Night.

7) We reminded them that bear and wolves roamed the woods at the other end of the lake.

8) Whenever we raised the issue of bears and wolves, Buck smiled that canine smile of his.

9) If we were worried about those animals, we should not have stayed out past dark.

10) In the dark outside the glow of the campfire, a twig snapped loudly in the woods.