

1) The **subject**

**The man** walked down the street.

2) A **participle** (word ending in – ing or – ed)

**Walking** up the street, he tripped.

**Worried** about tripping, he bumped into his wife.

3) A **connective**

**As** she walked, she whistled.

4) An **adverb**

**Joyfully**, she opened her present.

5) An **adjective**

**Angry** at the world, he stormed out.

6) A **phrase**

**At the top of the road**, she paused.

## Starting a sentence with an adverb

An **adverb** is just a word that describes a **verb**, like **slowly**, **softly**, **heavily** or **tightly**. Starting a sentence with an adverb at the front of your subordinate clause can be an interesting way of writing. Here are a couple of examples:

**Softly** *treading along the carpet, he wondered where he would end up.*

**Slowly** *breathing as he walked up the stairs, Todd glanced behind him.*

In the space below, give two examples of your own of sentences that start with an adverb.

## Starting with a past participle

**What on Earth is a past participle?** Don't worry: the answer is simple! It's really just a word that ends in -ed. Have a look at the examples below:

**Exhausted** from the race, he gulped his energy drink.

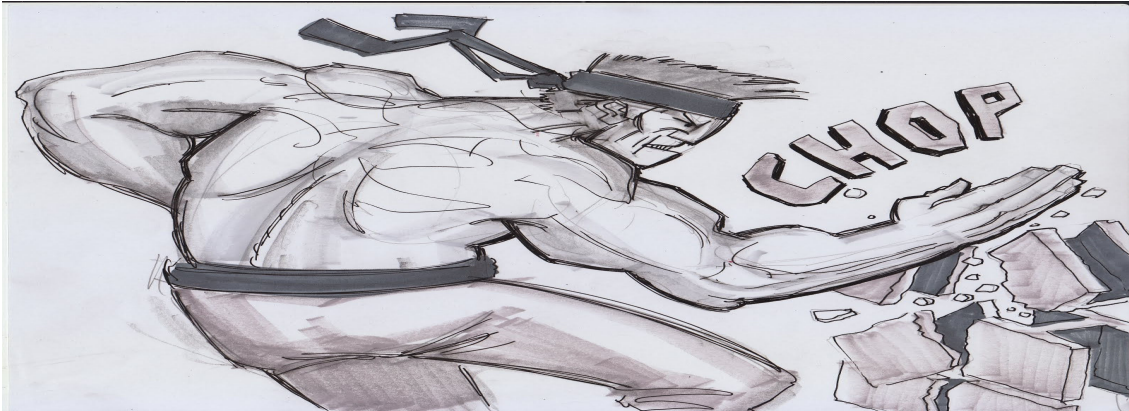
**Seated** just metres from the front, she caught his eye.

Now use the space below to give two examples of your own.



## Putting a subordinate clause in the middle of a complex sentence

We know that you can start a sentence or end a sentence with a subordinate clause, but sometimes it can leap into the middle of a sentence and split the main clause in two.



Sarah, *noticing that the weather was changing*, went back for her coat.

The children, *becoming more excited by the minute*, went through the door.

See if you can write two examples of your own in the space below. Remember to put a comma each side of the subordinate clause.

**Mixing up** the way you start your complex sentences makes your writing much more interesting. Using the same kind of sentence over and over again makes your writing boring, like someone with a voice that just doesn't change.

### **Starting a complex sentence with the progressive form of the verb**

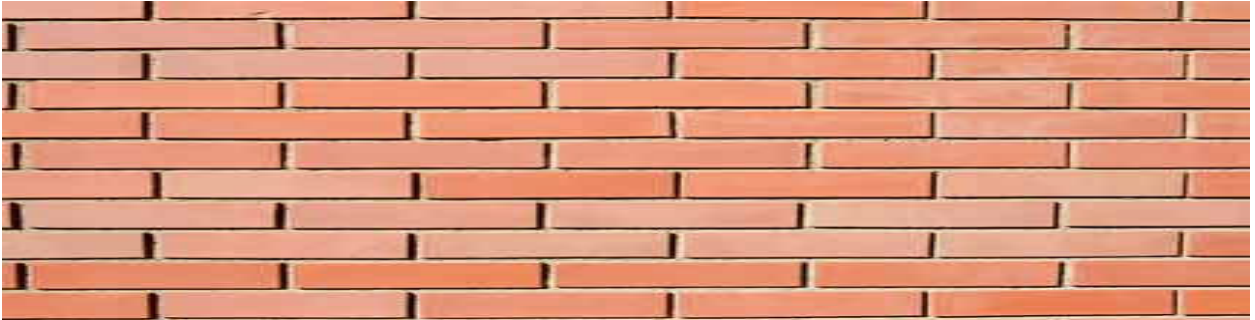
This isn't half as confusing as it sounds! The progressive form of the verb is just a word that ends in **'ing'**. Here are a couple of good examples:

***Listening to the sound of the birds in the distance*** (SUBORDINATE), ***she started to think about her future*** (MAIN).

***Running as fast as he could*** (SUBORDINATE), ***Darius hoped that he would get there in time*** (MAIN).

In the space below, write down two examples of your own:

## Complex sentences



The wall above is made of bricks. In the same way, the building blocks of sentences are called **clauses**. There are two types of clause:

**Main clause:** Part of the sentence that can stand alone as a separate sentence.

**Subordinate clause:** 'Subordinate' is just a fancy word for something that has something else in charge of it. The main clause is in charge of the subordinate clause. The subordinate clause just gives the extra detail and can't stand on its own.

See if you can label the main clause and the subordinate clause in the two sentences below:

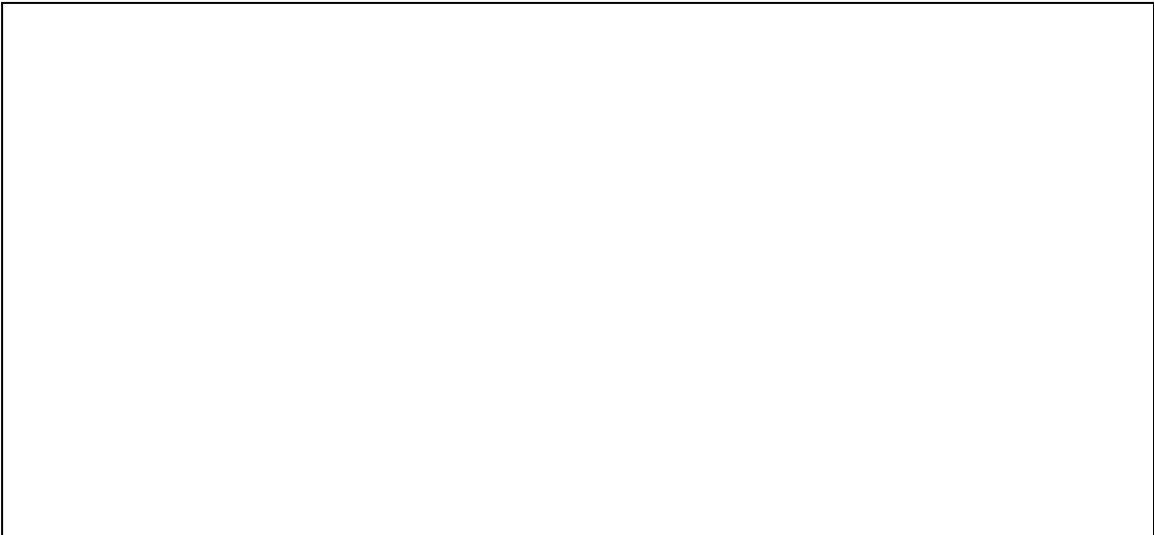
***As she walked under the bridge, she started to think about what she had to do later on.***

***She didn't go shopping, because she had run out of money.***

Does one of the two clauses always have to come at the front of the sentence (answer below)?

What effect does it have if sentences start in different ways (answer below)?

A sentence with at least one main clause and one subordinate clause is called a **complex sentence**. In the space below, write down **three examples** of complex sentences. Remember that your subordinate clause often starts with a linking word like 'as', 'because' and 'although'. These words are called **connectives**.



## Compound Sentences

Imagine a subordinate clause getting sick of being pushed around by the main clause. It goes away, does a bit of weight training and muscles its way in as another main clause. This is known as a **compound sentence**.



A **compound sentence** is a sentence that uses *two main clauses* and links them with a simple connecting word such as 'and' or 'but'. A good example of a compound sentence is 'I was tired **and** I was fed up'. Each part that has been underlined could stand alone as a separate sentence, which tells us that each is a *main clause*. In the space below, see if you can write down three compound sentences of your own.