

# Phrases and clauses

## Explanation

**Sentences** are made up of **words**, **phrases** and **clauses**.

A **phrase** is a group of **words** that go together. A **noun phrase** includes words that go with a noun. A **prepositional phrase** starts with a preposition, usually followed by a noun phrase.

A **clause** is a special type of phrase – a group of words that includes a **verb**. Sentences are often made up of a clause and one or more additional phrases. The **clause** tells us the most **important information** and the **phrases** give **extra information**.

**Example** In a far and distant land, there once lived a wise man with three sons.

↑  
prepositional phrase

↑  
clause

↑  
prepositional phrase

## Activities

**1** Write a label to show whether the **bold** part of each sentence is a **phrase** or a **clause**.

a Then **we went back** to the farmhouse.

b They ran **on the soft grass**.

c The man caught **a large fish**.

d **The man drove off** in the sports car.

e On Monday, **Vishal woke early**.

f **Polar bears** live in the Arctic.

**2** Choose phrases from the box to add to the start and end of these clauses. You can use a phrase more than once.

with the class

in a car

within seconds

in the morning

in the corridor

only the other day

a \_\_\_\_\_ the teacher was furious \_\_\_\_\_.

b \_\_\_\_\_ the robber had escaped \_\_\_\_\_.

c \_\_\_\_\_ a boy slipped \_\_\_\_\_.

d \_\_\_\_\_ I saw Mrs Johnson \_\_\_\_\_.