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Types of Phrases and Clauses

Phrases

Sample

Phrase type	Sample
Noun phrase	The Students / The assignment
Verb phrase	Will complete
Prepositional phrase	With high IQ
Adverbial phrase	Very quickly
Adjectival phrase	Challenging and lengthy
Appositive [describes another noun]	A group of high achievers
Introductory [opens the paragraph]	To secure good grades
infinitive [to+verb]	To secure
participle [involves verbs]	Motivated by their ambition

*Introductory phrases can be of any type such as prepositional, adverbial, adjectival, and appositive etc

Clauses

Independent Clause [IC]
A clause that can stand alone as a complete sentence. Contains a <u>subject</u> and a <u>verb</u> and expresses a <u>complete thought</u>

Example: The students will complete the assignment.

Dependent clause [DC]
A clause that cannot stand alone as a complete sentence. Does not contain either a <u>subject</u> or a <u>verb</u> or <u>both</u>. DC depends on an IC to give it meaning because a DC is not a complete thought.

Example: *Even though it requires a lot of effort.*

Co-relative
A type of dependent clause which begins with a relative pronoun **[who, which, whose, that, whom]** or a relative adverb **[when, where, why]**

Example: The students, who have a high IQ, will complete the assignment.

*[The relative clause is introduced by the relative pronoun "who" and describes the students, specifying that they are the ones who have High IQ]

COMMA: before and after the relative clause if the information is essential.
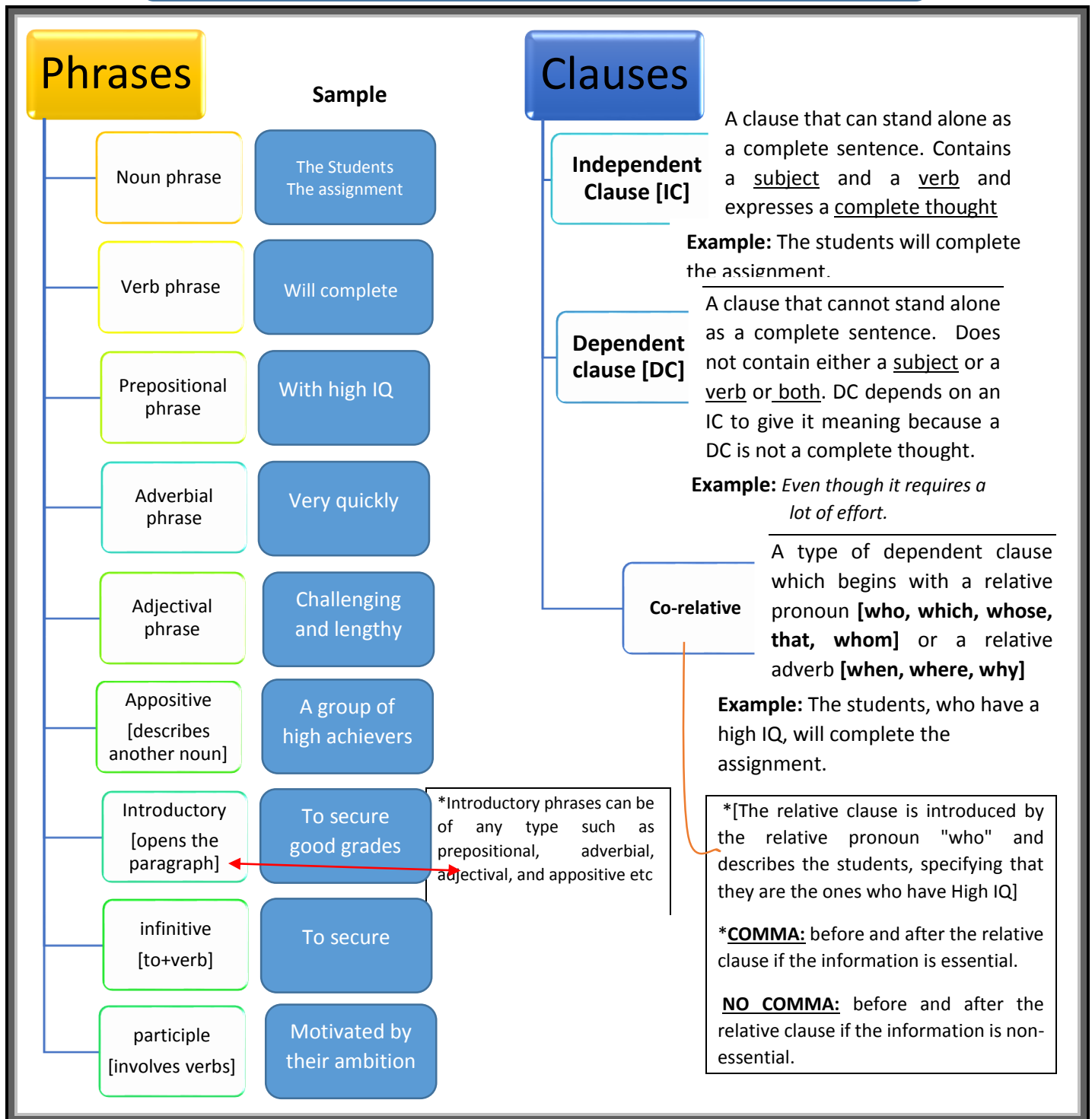
NO COMMA: before and after the relative clause if the information is non-essential.

Now, combine all the above phrases to add information to the following independent clause;

"The students will complete the assignment".

To secure good grades, the students, a group of high achievers with high IQ, motivated by their ambition, will complete the challenging and lengthy assignment, very quickly even though it requires a lot of effort.

REMEMBER: The sentence is highly complex. In academic and technical writing, such complex sentences can add unnecessary difficulty for the reader in understanding the text. The number of phrases in one sentence should be limited. The purpose of including a variety of phrases in the sentence above is to display how phrases can be used for adding details to a simple thought.