

# Technical Writing Skills

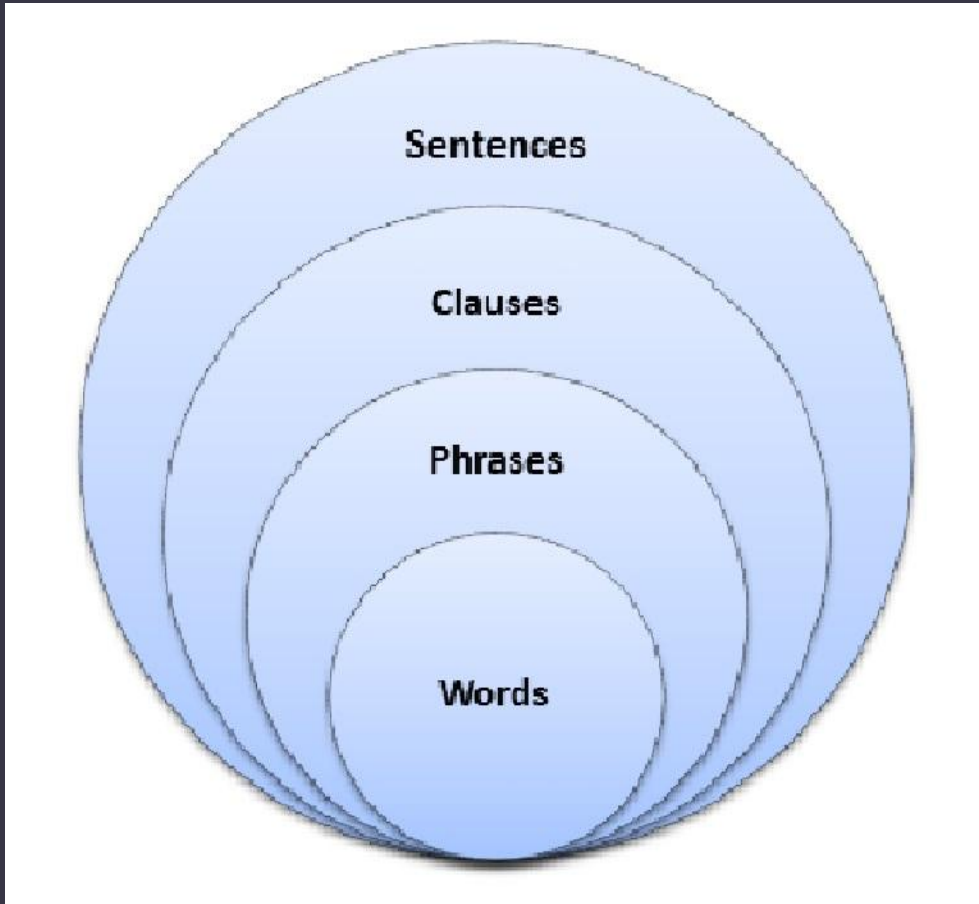
SD-100

Phrases and Clauses

# Learning Objectives

- ▶ Understand the basics of English sentence structure.

# Phrases and Clauses



<https://writingcenterunderground.wordpress.com/2015/09/30/identifying-phrases-and-clauses/>

# Phrase

- ▶ A group of words that form a single unit in a sentence, but do not include a subject, or a verb, or both.

## Examples

- *an inquiry into the matter*
- *despite our best efforts*
- *due to the increasing costs of production*

# Clause

- ▶ A group of words that contain a subject and a verb.
- ▶ Can sometimes form a complete idea or thought.

## Examples

- this sentence is simple
- even though he tried
- The installation is estimated to take 2 hours

# Clauses

- ▶ Two types of clauses: **Independent Clause** and **Dependent Clause**
- ▶ An **independent clause**
  - forms a complete thought
  - can stand alone as a sentence

## Examples

- Our class meets four times a week.
- We need to assemble a list of supplies.

# Clauses

## ▶ A dependent clause

- has a subject and a verb but does not form a complete thought
- cannot stand alone as a sentence

## Examples

- Although we anticipated these results
- Before we go into the supply room

# Activity #1

The background of the slide is a dark charcoal grey. On the right side, there is a complex, abstract geometric design composed of numerous overlapping triangles and polygons. These shapes are rendered in various shades of blue, ranging from a deep, muted teal to a bright, vibrant cyan. The overlapping nature of the shapes creates a sense of depth and movement, with some areas appearing lighter due to the layering of colors. The overall aesthetic is modern and minimalist.



# Sentences

- ▶ A sentence expresses a **complete thought**, no matter what the sentence before or after it may have expressed in relation to it.
- ▶ When a dependent clause is not linked to an independent clause, it is considered a sentence fragment.
- ▶ To eliminate sentence fragments, add an independent clause to the dependent clause.

# Activity #2

