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Subordinate Clauses

The easy way to make a complex sentence.

Subordinate clauses are magic: they change a simple sentence into a complex one! You need to include complex sentences in your writing to make it more sophisticated.

A subordinate clause simply adds extra information into a sentence.

It can go at the beginning or end of a sentence and is separated by a comma.

Simple sentence: Celia searched for the rabbit.

↑
Main clause

Complex sentence: Despite the wind and rain, Celia searched for the rabbit.

↑
Subordinate clause at the beginning.

↑
comma

Or

Complex sentence: Celia searched for the rabbit, despite the wind and rain.

↑
Subordinate clause at the end.

↑
comma

A subordinate clause doesn't make sense on its own. You can't just say: Despite the wind and rain. You need the main clause as well!