



GoBack

Level Four Definitions

Clauses

Before we begin a systematic practice of four-level analysis, it is important to memorize the major definitions that apply. Remember to review previous levels before you play GoBack. You can use these definitions for the major terms in Level Four, **clauses**.

- clause:** a group of words that contains a subject and its predicate
- dependent clause:** a clause that does not make a complete thought
- independent clause:** a clause that makes sense alone
- simple sentence:** a one-clause sentence
- compound sentence:** a sentence that contains two or more independent clauses
- complex sentence:** a sentence that has a dependent clause connected to an independent clause
- compound-complex:** a sentence that combines compound and complex structures
- declarative:** a sentence that makes a statement
- imperative:** a sentence that gives a command
- interrogative:** a sentence that asks a question
- exclamatory:** a sentence that exclaims
- clause punctuation:** basic rules are I,ccI I;I D,I ID
- noun clause:** a dependent clause that acts as a noun
Example: *That you care means everything to me.*
- adjective clause:** a dependent clause that acts as an adjective
Example: *The man who chased you ran away.*
- adverb clause:** a dependent clause that acts as an adverb
Example: *I laughed when you jumped.*

Clauses:

Punctuation and Grammar

Now let us highlight important rules that pertain to clauses. We already have examined most usage issues, so we will focus only on punctuation and grammar now.

PUNCTUATION

comma (,):

after introductory dependent clauses (D,I): As he left, we began again.

around nonessential (nonrestrictive) clauses:

Daryl Darrel, who is my uncle, decided to demur.

before coordinating conjunctions in I,ccI compound sentences:

Madeline made models, but Hedda had ham.

semicolon (;):

between independent clauses with no coordinating conjunction (I;I):

The time is out of joint; I must depart immediately.

between independent clauses joined by conjunctive adverbs *however*, etc.

I literally laughed; however, you laterally loafed.

period (.):

at the end of a declarative sentence: I have three words.

at the end of a mild imperative sentence: Please pursue the plot.

inside closing quotation marks: He said, "Stop that parrot."

question mark (?):

at the end of an interrogative sentence: Do you have rhubarb?

inside closing quotes if part of quote: He asked, "How about a flower?"

outside quotes if not part of quote: Did he say, "I'll allow it louder"?

exclamation point (!):

after an exclamatory sentence: The sky is falling!

after a strong imperative sentence: Everyone sit up!

inside closing quotes if part of quote: He cried, "I shall return!"

outside quotes if not part of quote: I can't believe he said, "I won't tell you"!

apostrophe ('):

missing letter(s) in a subject-verb contraction: don't

in the contraction of *it* and *is*: It's a good day to diet.