

Clauses and Phrases

Guided Discussion

Guided discussion may initially be highly structured. Then the difficulty can be increased by increasing the variety and number of words.

Say this: "Clauses are additional parts of sentences. They allow you to pack more information into a sentence. Understanding clauses is necessary to understand many sentences."

Draw this on a board or paper:



Say this: "I'm thinking of a circle. You don't know what circle until I add a clause, like this. I'm thinking of a circle that's big. Now which circle was I thinking of? Now I'm thinking of a circle that's small. Which circle is that?"

Then, draw this on a board or paper:

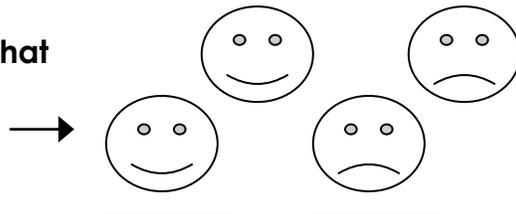


Say this: "Now I'll give you directions that have clauses. You have to listen to the entire sentence to understand the direction."

"Point to the face that is smiling." or "Point to the face that is frowning."

To add negatives: "Point to the face that is not smiling." or "Point to the face that is not frowning."

Then draw two more faces that are underlined so that your drawing now looks like this:



Say this: "Now I'll add some describing words. Remember to pay attention to each word in the sentence."

"Point to the underlined face that is smiling (or frowning)."

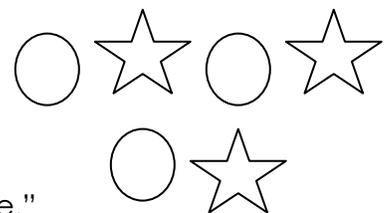
"Point to the frowning (or smiling) face that is not underlined."

Complexity can be increased or decreased as needed depending upon student success. With creativity the options for variety are limitless.

Prepositional phrases can be included like this:

Draw this:

Say this: "Sometimes there's more than one clause or phrase. It's important to listen to the entire sentence whenever you hear these longer sentences. Listen carefully to follow these directions."



"Point to the star that is under (or above) a circle."

"Point to the circle that is between two stars."

"Point to the star that is not on the bottom row."

Add elements as necessary, depending upon individual needs.

