

Clauses and Phrases

Guided
Practice
Ideas
Continued

Use miscellaneous textbooks

Say this:

“Show me:

- ... a sentence that begins with a capital letter.”
- ... a page number with three digits.”
- ... a word in the front of the index.” etc.

“Give me:

- ... a textbook that isn't open.”
- ... a textbook that I haven't opened.”
- ... a book that you use to learn about genetics.” etc.

“Turn to:

- ...the index of your math book.”
- ...the table of contents, and then the glossary.”
- ...any page with a fraction on it.” etc.

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Additional information regarding clause and phrase practice:

Complexity can also be increased by adding elements to the sentence before the clause or phrase. For example, *“Please don't forget again to pass me my brand new crumpled jacket that's hanging up.”*

Complexity can also be increased by shifting clauses or phrases within the sentence. For example, *“Please pass me the jacket that's hanging up before you leave for your mother's house.”*

Complexity can also be increased by manipulating the hierarchy within clauses. For example, a student working on prepositions could use the following hierarchy:

- The duck dropped its feather on the ground.
- The duck dropped its feather under the bridge.
- The duck dropped its feather between two banks.
- The duck dropped its feather across another feather.
- The duck dropped its feather through the broken window.

* * * * *

Put it in the middle:

Write words that introduce clauses and phrases on the board or on a piece of paper. These can include relative pronouns (e.g. that, who, which, where), prepositions (etc. of, below, etc.), adverbs, or conjunctions. Instruct the student to create sentences in which the target word is in the middle of the sentence. As sentences are correctly created, erase the target words.

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Sentence Combination

Sentences, clauses, and phrases, such as the ones in the left hand column, can be written or presented orally.

Combine:

The ball rolled down the hill.
The hill was steep.



The ball rolled down the steep hill.

His hat was tall.
His hat was black.



His hat was tall and black.

The girl had a hat.
The girl ran.



The girl with the hat ran.

Joe put on the backpack.
The backpack was not his.



Joe put on the backpack that was not his.

where bears hibernate
A den is a place.



A den is a place where bears hibernate.

My friend got a letter.
The letter was from her aunt.



My friend got a letter from her aunt.

of all his inventions
The scientist made a list.



The scientist made a list of all his inventions.

I washed my hands.
I used a new bar of soap.
I used warm water.



I washed my hands with water and a new bar of soap.

He found the pen.
for the signature
that was used



He found the pen that was used for the signature.

with the great red spot
between Saturn and Mars
What's the name of the planet



What's the name of the planet with the great red spot between *Saturn and Mars*?

The governor signed the bill.
He had carefully considered it.
He smiled for the news cameras.



After carefully considering the bill, the governor signed it while he smiled for the cameras.

The scientist discovered a new virus.
He did not discover a new bacteria.
The virus was deadly.



The scientist discovered a new, deadly virus instead of bacteria.

Create your own! Have the students create their own!