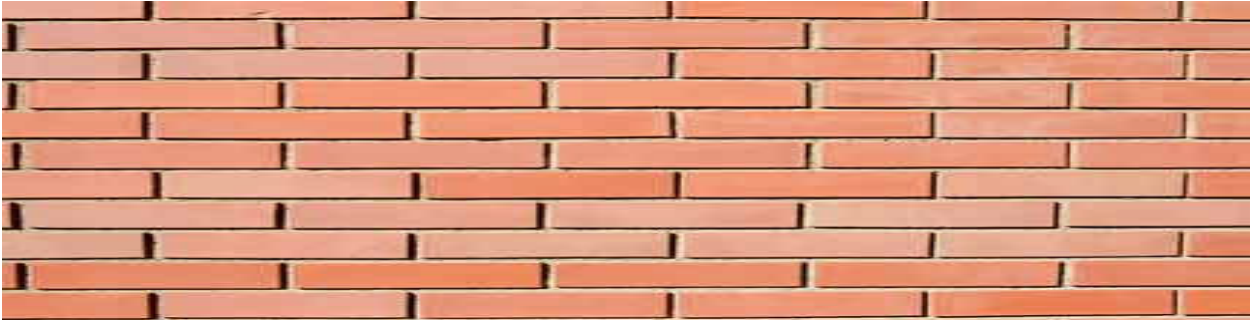


Complex sentences



The wall above is made of bricks. In the same way, the building blocks of sentences are called **clauses**. There are two types of clause:

Main clause: Part of the sentence that can stand alone as a separate sentence.

Subordinate clause: 'Subordinate' is just a fancy word for something that has something else in charge of it. The main clause is in charge of the subordinate clause. The subordinate clause just gives the extra detail and can't stand on its own.

See if you can label the main clause and the subordinate clause in the two sentences below:

As she walked under the bridge, she started to think about what she had to do later on.

She didn't go shopping, because she had run out of money.

Does one of the two clauses always have to come at the front of the sentence (answer below)?

What effect does it have if sentences start in different ways (answer below)?

A sentence with at least one main clause and one subordinate clause is called a **complex sentence**. In the space below, write down **three examples** of complex sentences. Remember that your subordinate clause often starts with a linking word like 'as', 'because' and 'although'. These words are called **connectives**.

