



ST GEORGE'S

BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ROME

Year 8 Curriculum

Unit 1: 19th century fiction: Homework booklet

Every week

1. 10 minutes reading every day – your own book, linked reader or linked reading
2. Readtheory – 3 quizzes a week (10-15 minutes)
3. Vocabulary (10-15 minutes)
4. Sentence structures (10-15 minutes)

Name:

Week 1 Homework Section A: Vocabulary

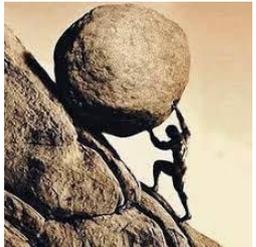
1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
interminable	If you describe something as interminable, you are emphasising that it continues for a very long time and indicating that you wish it was shorter or would stop.
zest	Zest is a feeling of pleasure and enthusiasm
feat	If you refer to an action, or the result of an action, as a feat, you admire it because it is an impressive and difficult achievement.
attenuated	Something that is attenuated is reduced in force, effect or value.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
interminable				
zest				
feat				
attenuated				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

interminable	
zest	
feat	
attenuated	

Section B: Simple sentences

A **simple sentence** is a sentence that consists of just one independent clause.

An **independent clause** is a clause that makes complete sense by itself. It has one subject and one verb.

The **subject** is the person or the thing doing the action. The **verb** is the action or the state.

For example,

Jack read his book. ■ Makes complete sense ■ Subject: Jack ■ Verb: read	Sofia thought about her homework. ■ Makes complete sense ■ Subject: Sofia ■ Verb: thought	Miss Odell taught the lesson ■ Makes complete sense ■ Subject: Miss Odell ■ Verb: taught
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Task:

Look at each of the simple sentences below that have been taken from one of the extracts from your linked reading booklet. For each simple sentence, can you identify the subject and the verb?

	Subject	Verb
Mr Bennett made no answer.		
Her father composed himself to sleep.		
The eldest child was born in Naples.		
Marley was dead.		
Madmen know nothing.		
Eliza, John and Georgiana were now clustered round their mama.		
My caress provoked a long, guttural gnarl.		
Mr Tangle was armed with a summary of eighteen hundred sheets.		
We began repeating the lesson.		

Simple sentences are used to convey basic information quickly. They can also be used to be impactful – to shock the reader, or create tension or draw emphasis to a particular point.

Minor sentences

A minor sentence is an incomplete sentence that still makes sense without all the necessary information – usually a main verb or a subject. They often help to

- Create a conversational effect
- Emphasise a point
- Create drama
- Show surprise.

Here are some examples of minor sentences:

- ‘She looked as carefully as she could, but found nothing. Absolutely nothing.’
- ‘I needed help. Fast!’
- ‘Imagine this. You’re trapped. Cold. Lonely.’
- ‘No pain, no gain.’
- ‘The more the merrier.’

Week 2 Homework Section A: Vocabulary

1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
verdant	If you describe a place as verdant, you mean that it is covered with green grass, trees and plants.
placid	A placid person or animal is calm and does not easily become excited, angry or upset.
phlegmatically	Someone who is phlegmatic stays calm even when upsetting or exciting things happen.
encrusted	If an object is encrusted with something, its surface is covered with a layer of that thing.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
verdant				
placid				
phlegmatically				
encrusted				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

verdant	
placid	
phlegmatically	
encrusted	

Section B: Sentence types

A declarative sentence is a sentence that makes a statement and ends in a full stop.

An exclamatory sentence is a sentence that exclaims something using extreme emotion and an exclamation mark is used at the end to show this.

An interrogative sentence is a sentence that ends with a question and ends using a question mark.

An imperative sentence is a command.

For example,

Declarative Jack had been thinking about leaving for a while, but hadn't wanted to upset anyone.	Exclamatory "You will not leave this house!" she screamed vehemently.	Interrogative "Will he go far? she inquired, for she did not want him to leave at all.	Imperative "Fetch my coat." (I will need it for the journey ahead).
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Task: Look at the following sentences. For each sentence, identify the type of sentence you think it is: declarative, exclamatory, interrogative or imperative and then add in the missing punctuation.

	Declarative	Exclamatory	Interrogative	Imperative
Going up that river was like travelling back to the earliest beginnings of the world, when vegetation rioted on the earth and the big trees were kings				
"Experimental verification " I cried. "You are going to verify that "				
The Psychologist looked at us. "I wonder what he's got "				
"Don't you think that would attract attention " said the Medical Man.				
"Please take this to Mrs Baroda " said Gaston.				
"Commotion " she hotely resented. "Nonsense How can you say such a thing "				
Gaston took his wife's pretty face between his hands and looked tenderly and laughingly into her troubled eyes				
Bring on that water you idle young harlican				
My head was roughly bandaged, and the man with the withered hand was watching my face				

Challenge: create four of your own sentences, one for each sentence type, in the space below.

Week 3 Homework

Section A: Vocabulary

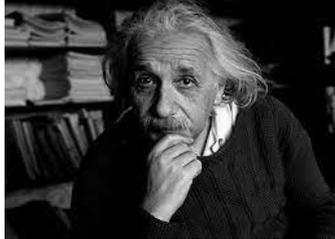
1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
profundity	Profundity is a great intellectual depth and understanding.
facades	The façade of a building, especially a large one, is its front wall or the wall that faces the street.
succulent	Succulent food, especially meat or vegetables, is juicy and good to eat.
ponderous	Ponderous writing or speech is very serious, uses more than words than necessary and is rather dull.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
profundity				
facades				
succulent				
ponderous				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

profundity	
facades	
succulent	
ponderous	

Section B: Compound sentences

A compound sentence is a sentence that joins two simple sentences (or independent clauses) together using a conjunction.

An independent clause is a clause that makes complete sense by itself. It has one subject and one verb.

A conjunction is a word that is used to connect clauses.

For example,

Jack read his book and Claudio watched television.	Sofia thought about her homework and Marco played football.	Miss Odell taught the lesson but the pupils ignored her.
Two simple sentences (independent clauses) that makes complete sense.	Two simple sentences (independent clauses) that makes complete sense.	Two simple sentences (independent clauses) that makes complete sense:
Independent clause 1: Jack read his book	Independent clause 1: Sofia thought about her homework	Independent clause 1: Miss Odell taught the lesson
Independent clause 2: Claudio watched television	Independent clause 2: Marco played football	Independent clause 2: The pupils ignored her
Two subjects: Jack and Claudio	Two subjects: Sofia and Marco	Two subjects: Miss Odell and pupils
Two verbs: read and watched	Two verbs: thought and played	Two verbs: taught and ignored
Linking conjunction: and	Linking conjunction: and	Linking conjunction: but

Task:

Look at each of the compound sentences on the next page that have been taken from some of the extracts in your linked reading booklet. For each compound sentence, can you identify

- ✦ The two independent clauses
- ✦ The two subjects
- ✦ The two verbs
- ✦ The linking conjunction

Compound sentence	Independent clause 1	Independent clause 2	Two subjects	Two verbs	Conjunction
He came down on Monday and was delighted with it.					
People would not stop in the street to greet him nor would beggars implore him to give them money. disposition.					
My ancestors had been for many years counsellors and my father had filled several public situations with honour and reputation.					
His daughter attended him with the greatest tenderness but she saw that their little fund was rapidly decreasing.					
Emma Woodhouse lived in a comfortable home and had a happy					

Week 4 Homework Section A: Vocabulary

1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
lurid	If you say that something is lurid, you are critical of it because it involves shocking details.
welkin	The welkin is the sky, heavens or upper air.
infernal	If you say something is infernal, you are emphasising that it is something that is very annoying or unpleasant.
rank	You can describe something as rank when it has a strong and unpleasant smell.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
lurid				
welkin				
infernal				
rank				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

lurid	
welkin	
infernal	
rank	

Section B: Complex sentences with embedded clauses

A complex sentence is a **sentence** that has both an independent clause (makes sense by itself and can stand alone) and a dependent clause (does not make sense by itself and cannot stand alone).

There are a number of ways complex sentences can appear.

For this task, we are going to consider a complex sentence that has an embedded clause. This is basically where the dependent clause is sandwiched between the independent clause. You can always identify the embedded clause because it will have commas surrounding it.

Look at the examples below:

<p>Jack, who was 10 and incredibly energetic, read his book.</p> <p>One simple sentence (independent clauses) that makes complete sense: Jack read his book</p> <p>One dependent clause that does not make complete sense and is embedded inside the independent clause: who was 10 and incredibly energetic</p>	<p>Sofia, who wanted to do well in her test, thought about her homework.</p> <p>One simple sentence (independent clauses) that makes complete sense: Sofia thought about her homework.</p> <p>One dependent clause that does not make complete sense and is embedded inside the independent clause: who wanted to do well in her test.</p>	<p>Miss Odell, who had yet to have coffee, taught the lesson.</p> <p>One simple sentence (independent clauses) that makes complete sense: Miss Odell taught the lesson.</p> <p>One dependent clause that does not make complete sense and is embedded inside the independent clause: who had yet to have coffee</p>
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Task:

Look at each of the complex sentences on the next page that have been taken from one of the extracts from your linked reading booklet. For each complex sentence, can you identify

- The independent clause
- The dependent clause

The use of dependent clauses is a brilliant way of conveying quick information about the subject it is describing. It helps to add layers of description to our writing!

Complex sentence	Independent clause	Dependent clause
Lady Agatha, who was my aunt, told me she had found a wonderful young man to help her.		
The light, which had wellmoulded features, lit up the dark.		
Mr Utterson, who was a man of rugged countenance, was a lawyer.		
Fettes, who was a man of education, lived in idleness and ruin.		
The door, which had gone unnoticed for a time, was decaying.		

Week 5 Homework Section A: Vocabulary

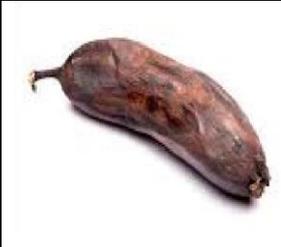
1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
contorted	Something that is contorted is twisted out of shape
grimed	Something that is grimed is very dirty or sooty.
festered	If you say something is festered, it has decayed or rotted to become very unpleasant.
teemed	If you say a place is teeming with people or animals, you mean that it is crowded and the people and animals are moving around a lot.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
contorted				
grimed				
festered				
teemed				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

contorted	
grimed	
festered	
teemed	

Section B: Appositives

An appositive is a second noun, or a noun phrase that is placed beside another noun to explain it more fully.

For example:

<p><i>Miss Odell, an English teacher, wrote on the board.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'an English teacher' is a noun phrase used to describe Miss Odell ▪ It is surrounded by commas because we are adding extra information in 	<p><i>Leonardo, a young student, studied lots for the test.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'a young student' is a noun phrase used to describe Leonardo ▪ It is surrounded by commas because we are adding extra information in
<p><i>A lion, the King of the Jungle, spied on its prey.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'the King of the Jungle' is a noun phrase used to describe a lion. ▪ It is surrounded by commas because we are adding extra information in 	<p><i>The book, a bestseller on the New York Times list, won another award last month.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'a bestseller on the New York Times List' is a noun phrase used to describe the book ▪ It is surrounded by commas because we are adding extra information in

Task One:

Look at the following sentences. For each sentence, can you identify the appositive?

	Appositive
Mrs Bennett, a forceful and determined women, had set her sights on Mr Bingely for one of her daughters.	
The house, an ancestral mansion, had been let cheaply to them for the summer.	
Emma Woodhouse, a handsome, clever, rich woman, had a comfortable home and a happy disposition.	
The river, rich in vegetation, was abandoned and going up it was like travelling back to the earliest beginnings of the world.	

Task Two:

Look at the following sentences. They are missing an appositive. Could you add one in?

	New sentence containing the appositive
Pip, _____, cried out in fear.	
Dr Jekyll, _____, shut himself in his laboratory.	
The tunnel, _____, called to me and I started to amble in its direction.	

Week 6 Homework Section A: Vocabulary

1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
incursion	If someone or something enters an area where you would not expect them to be, or where they have not been found before, you can call this an incursion, especially when you disapprove of their presence.
sullen	Someone who is sullen is bad-tempered and does not speak much.
writhed	If you writhe, your body twists and turns violently backwards and forwards, usually because you are in great pain or discomfort.
repose	Repose is a state in which you are resting and feeling calm.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
incursion				
sullen				
writhed				
repose				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

incursion	
sullen	
writhed	
repose	

Section B: Complex sentences with subordinating conjunctions

A **complex sentence** is a **sentence** that has both an **independent clause** (makes sense by itself and can stand alone) and a **dependent clause** (does not make sense by itself and cannot stand alone).

A **subordinating conjunction** is a word or phrase that links a dependent clause to an independent clause. A list of subordinating conjunctions is below

1. after	15. just as	29. unless
2. although	16. lest	30. until
3. as	17. now	31. when
4. as if	18. now since	32. whenever
5. as long as	19. now that	33. where
6. as soon as	20. now when	34. whereas
7. as though	21. once	35. where if
8. because	22. provided	36. wherever
9. before	23. so that	37. whether
10. even	24. supposing	38. which
11. even if	25. than	39. while
12. even though	26. that	40. who
13. if	27. though	41. whoever
14. if only	28. till	42. why

A **periodic sentence** is where the independent clause appears at the end.

Look at the examples below:

1. Although he was only 10 and incredibly energetic, Jack settled down to read his book.
2. Jack settled down to read this book although he was only 10 and incredibly energetic.

In sentence 1, although, the subordinating conjunction appears at the start. Here, a comma is inserted to show where the independent clause begins.

In sentence 2, although, the subordinating conjunction appears later end. As it is works to connect the independent to the dependent, no comma is needed.

<p>Despite wanting to do well in her homework, Sofia decided to watch television instead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complex sentence begins with the dependent clause. ▪ Complex sentence begins with the subordinating conjunction ▪ A comma is used to signal the start of the independent clause. 	<p>Sofia decided to watch television instead despite wanting to do well in her homework.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complex sentence begins with the independent clause. ▪ The subordinating conjunction links the independent clause to the dependent clause. No comma is needed
<p>Even though she was yet to have her coffee, Miss Odell taught the lesson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complex sentence begins with the dependent clause. ▪ Complex sentence begins with the subordinating conjunction ▪ A commas is used to signal the start of the independent clause. 	<p>Miss Odell taught the lesson even though she was yet to have her coffee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complex sentence begins with the independent clause. ▪ The subordinating conjunction links the independent clause to the dependent clause. No comma is needed

Task:

Look at the following complex sentences. For each sentence, I'd like you to do three things:

1. Decide whether the sentence starts with the independent or dependent clause.
2. Identify the subordinating conjunction.
3. Decide whether the sentence needs a comma or not to separate the clauses. If so, identify where you would place the comma.

Complex sentence	Does this sentence start with the independent or dependent clause?	Subordinating conjunction	Does the sentence require a comma?
Although each picture told a story, I found my understanding of it undeveloped.			
My heart warmed up as I rode towards him.			
When he saw my horse's breast fairly pushing the barrier, he did put out his hand to unchain it.			
The apartment and furniture belonged to a farmer despite its appearance.			
Before passing the threshold, I paused to admire a quantity of grotesque carving lavished over the front.			

Challenge: construct two complex sentences – one that starts with the independent clause and one that starts with the dependent clause.

Week 7 Homework

Section A: Vocabulary

1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
unafflicted	If you are unafflicted, you are not closely associated with another or have a feeling of belonging to someone or something.
stifling	If a situation or a place is stifling, it makes you feel uncomfortable because you cannot do what you want.
felicity	Felicity is great happiness and pleasure.
scoffs	If you scoff at something, you speak about it in a way that shows you think it is ridiculous or inadequate.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
unafflicted				
stifling				
felicity				
scoffs				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

unafflicted	
stifling	
felicity	
scoffs	

Section B: Relative clauses

A relative clause can be used to give additional information about a noun. They are introduced by a relative pronoun like 'that', 'which', 'who', 'whose', 'where' and 'when'. For example:

For example:

I bought a new car that is very fast.	I like the woman who lives next door.	I live in Rome which has some fantastic historical sites.
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Task:

Look at the following sentences and identify the relative clause by underlining it – and then identify the relative pronoun.

	Relative pronoun
The silence was filled by my attempting to caress the canine mother, who had left her nursery and was sneaking wolfishly to the back of my legs.	
He directed his contemplation towards the lantern in the roof, where he could see nothing but fog.	
“Monsieur Roger, here is a pupil whom I recommend to your care; he’ll be in the second.”	
There was a burst of laughter from the boys, which so thoroughly put the poor lad out of countenance that he did not know whether to keep his cap in his hand, leave it on the ground, or put it on his head.	
His wife had adored him once on a time; she had bored him with a thousand servilities that had only estranged him the more.	

Challenge: construct sentences that utilise a relative clause. In each example, try and use a different relative pronoun.

that	
which	
who	
whose	
where	
when	

Week 8 Homework Section A: Vocabulary

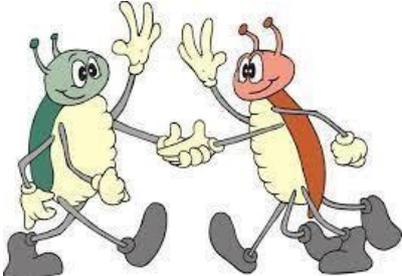
1. Read the following definitions and examples:

Word	Definition
congenial	A congenial person, place or environment is pleasant.
arbour	An arbour is a shelter in a garden which is formed by leaves and stems of plants growing closer together over a light framework.
chintz	Chintz is a cotton fabric decorated with flowery patterns.
basely	If someone is basely they show no honour or morals.

2. Look, cover, write and check the following words five times in the table below.

	1	2	3	4
congenial				
arbour				
chintz				
basely				

3. Choose the most appropriate word for each of the pictures below and write it in the box.

4. Now construct your own sentence using each of the words below:

congenial	
arbour	
chintz	
basely	

Compound-complex sentence	Independent clause 1	Independent clause 2	Dependent clause	Conjunction
When Mrs Bennett was discontented, which she was often thus, she fancied herself nervous and would fidget the hours away.				
Emma Woodhouse, who was handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition, seemed to unite some of the best blessings of existence; and had lived nearly twenty-one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her.				
His daughter, who was compassionate beyond measure, attended him with the greatest tenderness; but she saw with despair that their little fund was rapidly decreasing and that there was no other prospect of support.				

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