**Sentences** are made of two parts: the subject and the predicate.

The subject is the person or thing that acts or is described in the sentence. The predicate, on the other hand, is that action or description.

Complete sentences need both the subject and the predicate.

 **Subject Predicate**

Example: Matthew/ is my nephew.

 **Clauses** contain a subject and verb. If they form complete thoughts and can stand alone, we call them independent clauses. If they form incomplete thoughts and cannot stand alone, we call them dependent (subordinate) clauses.

 **dependent clause independent clause**

Example: **While we collected the data**, ***the temperature gradually increased***.

Dependent clause subject and verb: *we collected*

Independent clause subject and verb: *temperature increased*

 **dependent clause independent clause**

Example: **Although lions eat zebra**, *lions prefer to eat antelope*.

Dependent clause subject and verb: lions eat

Independent clause subject and verb:lions prefer

**Phrases** are word clusters lacking subject and verb combinations.

 **phrase**

Example: **While collecting data**, we noted an increase in temperature.