

# Objective:

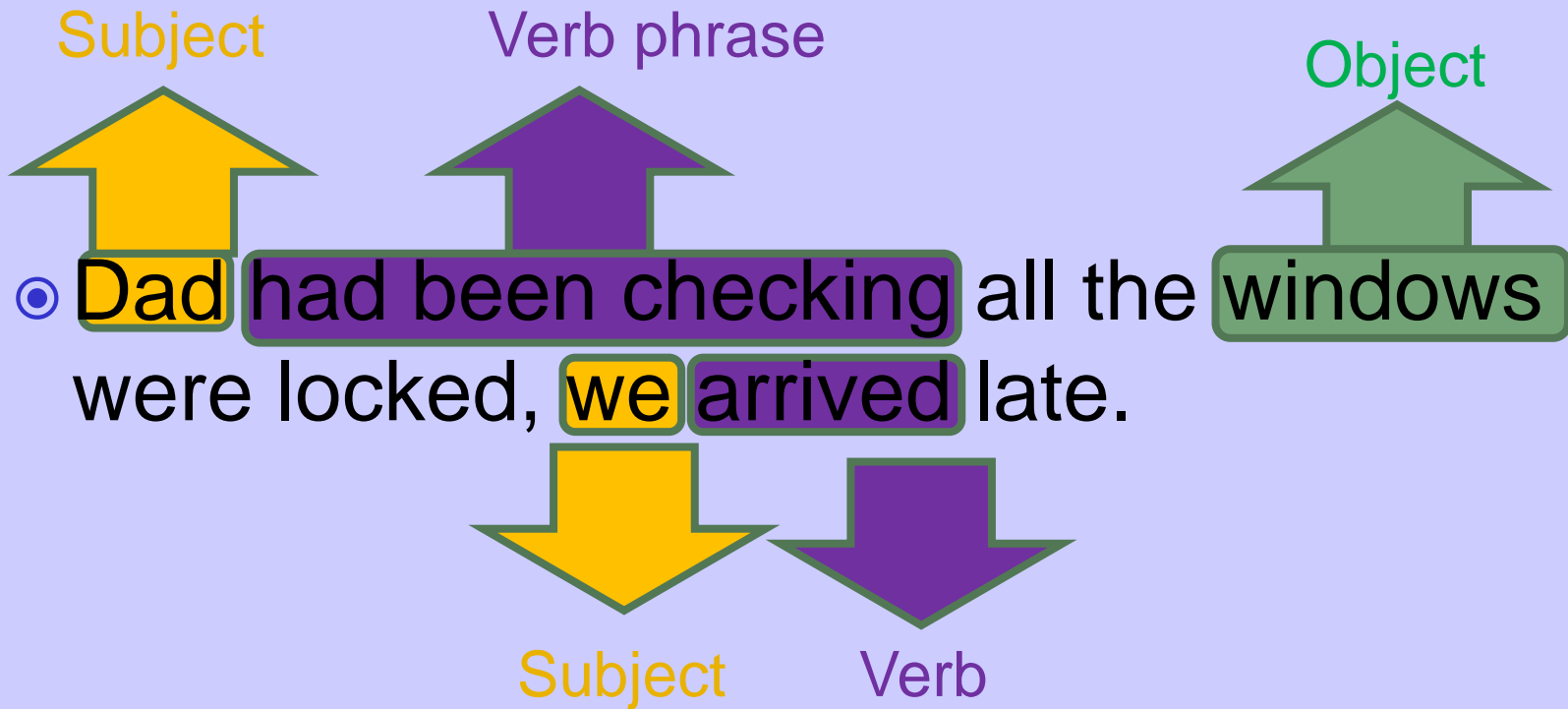
To learn what comma splices are and how to avoid them in our writing.

- ⦿ **Splice** means to join two things together, or to unite two things e.g. splice two ends of a rope.
- ⦿ In Science, it can mean to cut and join genes together to create new genes, which would otherwise never occur naturally.
- ⦿ **Discuss in pairs:** What might comma splicing mean then?

# Comma splices

- ◉ A simple sentence is just one clause which makes sense by itself (it is just a single **main clause**).
- ◉ A compound sentence connects two or more main clauses with the connectives **and**, **but**, *or* or **or**.
- ◉ A complex sentence is a main clause, combined with one or more subordinate clauses.
- ◉ **Comma splicing is where you accidentally merge a number of main clauses, without using connectives.**

# Example of a comma splice:



# Some solutions

- ◉ Dad had been checking all the windows were locked **and** we arrived late.
- ◉ Dad had been checking all the windows were locked **so** we arrived late.
- ◉ **Because** Dad had been checking all the windows were locked, we arrived late.

# Task

- ◉ Change each of these comma-spliced sentences by adding a connective or changing the punctuation.
  - I considered what to do, I decided that watching and waiting would be wise.
  - We all got up really early, we had to hit the road by seven!
  - When we finally got there, I was surprised to see that it was sunny, the weather had been awful back home, the town was looking beautiful in the morning light.

# Possible answers:

- I considered what to do **and** I decided that watching and waiting would be wise.
- We all got up really early **because** we had to hit the road by seven!
- When we finally got there, I was surprised to see that it was sunny **because** the weather had been awful back home. The town was looking beautiful in the morning light.