

NOUN CLAUSES AFTER BE

INTRODUCTORY EXPRESSIONS



BE



NOUN CLAUSE

- The downside of
- The upside of
- The hard part about
- The good thing about
- The only thing about
- The secret to
- One difficulty with

Examples:

- The downside of **sharing a bedroom**** is (that) it is difficult to have privacy.
- The secret to happiness is to try to be a better version of yourself everyday.

*** The phrase ending in a preposition can be followed by a *gerund phrase*, not + *gerund phrase*, and *noun phrases*.

1. Rewrite the phrase. Change the noun phrases in boldface to gerund phrases.

- The trouble with a **big family** is that it is expensive to feed everyone.
The trouble with having a big family is that it is expensive to feed everyone.
- The downside of a bilingual education is that one can mix up elements of each language.
- The good thing about a second language is that it permits getting better jobs.
- One difficulty with the life in the city is the large amount of vehicles on the streets.
- The hard part about math exercises is that sometimes signs can be mixed up and cause the result to change.
- The upside of Universities is that they help you grow as a person in different ways.
- One benefit of big families is that you have more relatives to support you.

2. Create sentences using the following elements.

- Downside of / work and study / get you tired.
- Upside of / learn English / personal skills.
- Only thing about / drive at night / accidents.
- Difficulty with / travel / expensive / time consuming.
- Benefit of / live in Colombia / not expensive.
- Hard part / live alone / responsibility.