

A Sentence Divided...

“Cleft” means divided. **Cleft sentences** can be used to emphasize a particular part of a sentence. In a cleft sentence, one element of the sentence is shifted from its normal place in the sentence into a separate clause. The emphasis in the sentence changes in a cleft sentence, depending on what is shifted.

NORMAL SENTENCE: Doug wore his Spiderman costume to school last week.

CLEFT SENTENCE: It was Doug who wore his Spiderman costume to school last week.

It was a Spiderman costume that Doug wore to school last week.



DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence below. Rewrite the sentence four times as a cleft sentence, each time shifting the emphasis onto a different aspect of the sentence.

Tina asked to be excused from recess yesterday because she didn't feel well.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____
