***INDEPENDENT AND SUBORDINATE CLAUSES***

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| **6a A *clause* is a group of words that contains a verb and its subject and is used as a part of a sentence.**Every clause contains a subject and a verb. However, not all clauses express complete thoughts.**6b An *independent* (or *main*) *clause* expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself as a sentence.**examples Gloria tied her sneakers. She wore a red jersey.When an independent clause stands alone, it is called a sentence. Usually, the term *independent clause* is used only when such a clause is joined with another clause.

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| --- | --- |
| sentence | She leaped over the hurdle. |
| independent clause | When she reached the turn, **she leaped over the hurdle.** |

**6c A *subordinate* (or *dependent*) *clause* does not express a complete thought and cannot stand alone.**A subordinate clause must be joined with at least one independent clause to express a complete thought. Notice that words such as *since, that*, and *if* signal the beginning of a subordinate clause.

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| --- | --- |
| subordinate clauses | since we moved here |
|  | that you will like |
|  | if the night is clear |
| sentences | **Since we moved here,** I have learned to ski. |
|  | Ralph rented a movie **that you will like.** |
|  | **If the night is clear,** you will see shooting stars. |

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Identifying Independent and Subordinate Clauses For each of the following sentences, identify the italicized clause by writing *indep.* for independent or *sub.* for subordinate on the line before the sentence.

ex. sub. 1. Please bring your camera *when you visit*.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. The tomatoes, *which we grew ourselves*, taste wonderful.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. *Jennifer bought that dog* when it was just a puppy.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. This is Diego, *whose sister you met yesterday*.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. *If you need more paper*, I can loan you some.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. *Rain has fallen every weekend* since I bought my skates.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. When the plane lands, *please stay in your seats*.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. The door opened *as we walked up the stairs*.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. *You can talk to Mr. Shankar* before class starts.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. *The instrument* that you heard *is an oboe*.

\_\_\_\_\_  10. Because you read quickly, *you can finish this story in an evening*.

EXERCISE 2. Writing Sentences with Subordinate Clauses Add independent clauses to the following subordinate clauses to create sentences. Write your sentences on the lines after each clause. Underline the independent clause in each sentence.

ex. 1. because it is gold

The statue will never rust because it is gold.

1. who wrote this report

2. when you’re ready

3. as the winners were announced

4. if you want tickets to the concert

***THE ADJECTIVE CLAUSE***

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| **6d An *adjective clause* is a subordinate clause that modifies a noun or a pronoun.**Like an adjective or an adjective phrase, an adjective clause may modify a noun or a pronoun. Unlike an adjective phrase, an adjective clause contains a verb and its subject.

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| --- | --- |
| adjective | a **big** computer |
| adjective phrase | a computer **with a big screen** [does not have a verb and its subject] |
| adjective clause | a computer **that has a big screen** [does have a verb and its subject] |

An adjective clause usually follows the noun or pronoun it modifies and tells *which one* or *what kind*.examples The girl **who reported to the teacher** is my cousin. [The adjective clause modifies the noun *girl,* telling which one.] I want a jacket **that zips up the front.** [The adjective clause modifies the noun *jacket*, telling *what* kind.]An adjective clause is almost always introduced by a *relative pronoun*.

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| Relative Pronouns |
| that | which | who | whom | whose |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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EXERCISE 3 Identifying Adjective Clauses

Underline the adjective clause in each of the following sentences.

ex. 1. I played baseball, which is my favorite sport.

1. Maria Tallchief is the ballerina who founded a ballet company.

2. The conductor, who looked familiar, was a friend of my sister.

3. This is the store that is having the sale on used books.

4. The photograph, which was taken in 1973, looks faded now.

5. The person whose name you have picked will be your partner.

6. At last, the surgeon, who looked tired, finished the operation.

7. The wok that I’m using belongs to Tanya.

8. I got a stain on this sweater, which belongs to my older sister.

9. Ralph Ellison is the author whom we met.

  10. The keyboard that looks different is a new design.