

Independent and Subordinate Clauses A

6b. An **independent** (or **main**) **clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself as a sentence.

6c. A **subordinate** (or **dependent**) **clause** does not express a complete thought and cannot stand by itself as a complete sentence.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE If you need me, **I will help you.**

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE **If you need me,** I will help you.

EXERCISE For each of the following sentences, identify the underlined word group by writing above it *IND* for *independent clause* or *SUB* for *subordinate clause*.

Example 1. The friend ^{*SUB*} who is visiting this weekend is Melody.

1. When Jeremy called last night, I was not at home.
2. I know the woman who owns that store.
3. John is the boy who is on the swim team.
4. It is hot today; please water the garden.
5. If he finishes his report on time, he can go to the beach Saturday.
6. This is the poem that I memorized last year.
7. The student whom I recommend for class president is Lindsey.
8. I can't concentrate when you practice the trumpet with your door open.
9. Although these colors are beautiful, I don't like the painting.
10. The man whom you met is the president of the group.
11. The girls who painted that mural live in my neighborhood.
12. When you reach the end of the hallway, turn right.
13. Please fold these clothes before they become wrinkled.
14. After we wrapped the presents, we hurried to the post office.
15. We didn't go to her party because we went camping that weekend.
16. The trees that my great-grandfather planted still shade the farmhouse.
17. Whenever you dust the shelves, I sneeze.
18. My aunt stays at our house when she comes to the city for business meetings.
19. The CD that you borrowed last week is due at the library today.
20. Preheat the oven to 350°, and take the chicken out of the refrigerator.

Independent and Subordinate Clauses B

6b. An **independent** (or **main**) **clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself as a sentence.

6c. A **subordinate** (or **dependent**) **clause** does not express a complete thought and cannot stand by itself as a complete sentence.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE When you call Jane, **ask her for that book.**

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE **When you call Jane,** ask her for that book.

EXERCISE On the lines provided, add independent clauses to the following subordinate clauses to express complete thoughts. Make sure each sentence begins with a capital letter and has end punctuation.

Example 1. after we left the pizza parlor We went to a movie after we left the pizza parlor.

1. when I graduate from high school _____

2. whose sweater was lost _____

3. which is a good book _____

4. until Mark moved to Chicago _____

5. after the game was over _____

6. that caused the accident _____

7. since I met you in art class _____

8. until I call you on Friday _____

9. whom I assist as a student aide during my free period _____

10. because I didn't think before I spoke _____
