

Name _____

Independent and Dependent Clauses

An **independent clause** has a subject and verb and can stand alone as a complete sentence. A **dependent clause** has a subject and a verb but cannot stand alone as a complete sentence. In the following sentences, the independent clause is underlined once; the dependent clause is underlined twice. The dependent clause is followed by a comma when it comes before the independent clause.

Lucinda took the dog home because she was lonely.

Because she was lonely, Lucinda took the dog home.

Directions Write *IC* after each independent clause and *DC* after each dependent clause.

1. Because she was friendly. _____
2. Lucinda ran to the basement and found it empty. _____
3. Jan bathed Shadow in the backyard. _____
4. When the power went out. _____
5. After they crossed the Mississippi River. _____
6. If Carmen had not seen it. _____
7. Tenants mingled outside their apartments. _____
8. The boys won the baseball game. _____
9. As she called from the window. _____
10. They were eating dinner. _____

Directions Underline the independent clause and circle the dependent clause in each sentence.

11. Because the dog was abandoned, Lucinda had to take care of him.
12. The dog caused problems when it ran away.
13. Although she was shy, Lucinda talked to Ashley.
14. While Lucinda was gone, her parents almost called the police.
15. Ashley read many books because she wanted to be a writer.



Home Activity Your child learned about independent and dependent clauses. Have your child tell you what independent and dependent clauses are and give you an example of each.

Name _____

Independent and Dependent Clauses

Directions Add an independent clause to each dependent clause to make a complete sentence.

1. When I went to the store, _____
2. Although Henry didn't feel well, _____
3. When Maria thought about Cuba, _____
4. While we were on vacation, _____
5. After the test was over, _____
6. Before I could raise my hand, _____
7. Because Michael broke his leg, _____
8. Until I finish my homework, _____
9. Although it was sunny, _____
10. Unless we ride our bikes, _____

Directions Add a dependent clause to each independent clause to make it more interesting.

11. _____
_____, Thomas raced down the stairs.
12. Ashley decided to walk to school _____

13. She was sad _____
14. _____ Mom walks a mile.



Home Activity Your child learned how to use independent and dependent clauses in writing. Have your child write a sentence about his or her favorite animal using an independent clause and a dependent clause.

