

Lesson Name : 18

Lesson Title : Independent and Dependent Clauses

Course Name : English 2 Part 3 [Honors]

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Essential Instruction



Use your digital notebook to keep notes on new grammar concepts that you may need to reference later.

Independent and Dependent Clauses

Today, let's talk about **independent** and **dependent** (subordinate) **clauses**. Here's an explanation of those two types of clauses:

Independent clause – A group of words with a subject and predicate that can stand on its own as a sentence (expresses a complete thought).

Dependent (subordinate) **clause** – A group of words with a subject and predicate that cannot stand on its own as a sentence (does not express a complete thought).

Independent clauses are pretty straightforward; an **independent clause** is a complete sentence. On the other hand, dependent clauses come in three different varieties. As you discern **independent** and **dependent clauses**, it helps to know more about how a **dependent clause** might look.

Types of Dependent Clauses

There are three basic types of **dependent clauses**: **noun clauses**, **adjective clauses** and **adverb clauses**. Each clause is named after the role it plays in a sentence.

Noun Clause – A **noun clause** performs the same functions in a sentence that nouns do. Noun clauses can be the subject of a sentence.

That Margie would get so angry about the situation is not surprising.

Notice that you can remove the entire **noun clause** and substitute the word *it*, a pronoun that takes the place of a noun:

It is not surprising.

Because you can make this substitution, you know you're dealing with a **noun clause**.

Adjective Clause – An **adjective clause** performs the same functions in sentences that adjectives do; they modify nouns.

The shoes that I was wearing yesterday didn't match.

This is an **adjective clause** because it modifies a noun, "shoes."

Adverb Clause – An **adverb clause** shows relationships such as time, cause and effect, contrast, and condition.

Before we purchased the new washing machine, we compared the prices at several stores.

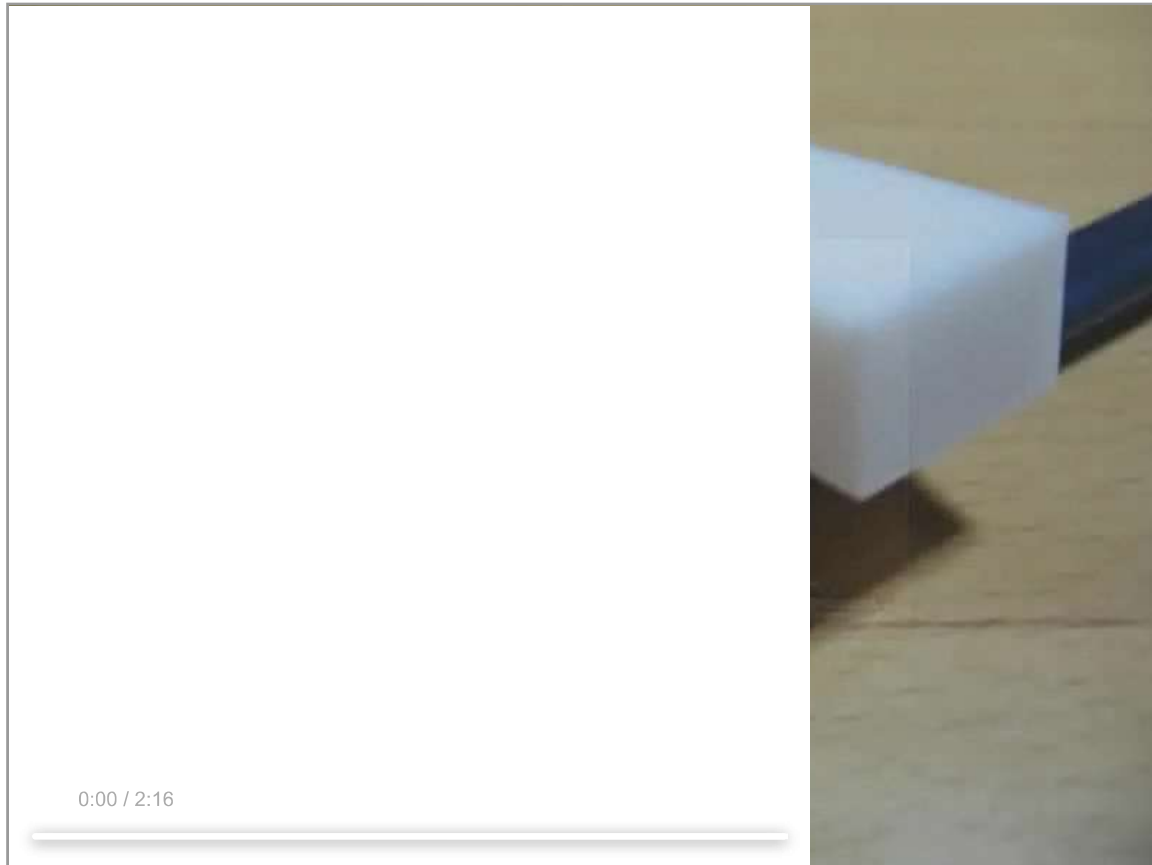
This **clause** modifies the verb “compared,” because it tells us *when* the action of the verb occurred. When did we compare the prices? Before we purchased the new washing machine.

As you examine **independent** and **dependent clauses**, try to identify whether the clause is playing one of these roles in the sentence.

Effective Listening Skills

Let’s now turn our thoughts to becoming effective listeners. In this activity, we will listen to a segment about commas and clauses.

[Review](#) the steps for active listening. Now that you’re ready to be an active listener, [listen](#) to a clip about commas and clauses.



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