

Name _____

Date _____

An **independent clause** is a complete thought. It could stand on its own as a separate sentence.

A **dependent clause** does not express a complete thought. It could not stand alone as a complete sentence.

What's A Clause?

Independent Clause: Mary studied for her test.

Dependent Clause: When Mary studied for her test.

The word *when* makes the sentence a dependent clause. It needs additional information to be complete.

When Mary studied for her test she liked it to be quiet.

In the following sentences, underline the words that form an independent clause and shade the words that form a dependent clause.

1. Because supplies were limited, the store had no more art sets in stock.
2. Since it was dark outside, we used flashlights.
3. Unless you want to be late, we need to leave right now.
4. Mary likes cats but Jane likes dogs because dogs obey better.
5. I read the book, but my friend watched the movie.
6. You should wear a jacket since it is chilly outside.

