

Dependent and Independent Clauses

Storm Warriors
Grammar: Complex Sentences

A **complex sentence** is made up of a dependent clause and an independent clause.

A **dependent clause** begins with a subordinating conjunction and needs the rest of the sentence to make sense. An

independent clause can stand on its own.

dependent clause **independent clause**

When it started to rain, we went inside.

Thinking Questions

Which part of the sentence can stand on its own?

Which part just gives extra information?

Activity Circle the dependent clause and underline the independent clause in each sentence.

1. We boarded up the windows because a hurricane was coming.
2. After we were finished, we went to the store for supplies.
3. Because the storm could knock down power lines, we bought flashlights.
4. We wanted to hurry back before the storm started.
5. When we returned home, the rain began to fall.
6. While the hurricane raged, we stayed safe inside.