

Lesson 1

# What Is a Clause?

## Reteaching

A **clause** is a group of words that contains both a subject and a verb. There are two kinds of clauses, independent and dependent.

An **independent clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand alone as a sentence. An independent clause is also called a **main clause**.

We all want bargains.

SUBJECT VERB

A **dependent clause** may contain a subject and a verb, but it does not express a complete thought. It cannot stand alone as a sentence. Another name for a dependent clause is a **subordinate clause**. Dependent clauses are often introduced by words such as *because, when, if, while, or that*.

when we buy things

SUBJECT VERB

A dependent clause can be joined to an independent clause to express a complete thought.

We all want bargains when we buy things.

## Identifying Independent and Dependent Clauses

Identify each boldfaced group of words by writing **IND** for independent clause and **DEP** for dependent clause.

1. Anyone with a checking account keeps track of the checks **that he or she writes**. \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Your check register is a record of your checks and their amounts**. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Veronica, **who is a very organized person**, keeps good financial records. \_\_\_\_\_
4. If you don't keep track of your funds, **you might write a bad check**. \_\_\_\_\_
5. A bad check is called bad **because there is no money in your account to pay it**. \_\_\_\_\_
6. **An orderly register tells the exact amount of money in your account**. \_\_\_\_\_
7. **If you have little or no money left**, you cannot write any more checks. \_\_\_\_\_
8. A bank charges an extra fee **whenever your funds won't cover your checks**. \_\_\_\_\_
9. **Each month, the bank sends you a statement** that shows what came into or went out of the account. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Every bank has its own rules about **what fees it charges**. \_\_\_\_\_
11. A checking account **that has a certain amount of money in it** will earn interest. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Before Andrew opened his checking account, **he asked about the bank's fees**. \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson  
1**

# What Is a Clause?

*More Practice*

## A. Identifying Independent and Dependent Clauses

Identify each boldfaced group of words by writing **IND** for independent clause or **DEP** for dependent clause.

1. My favorite store went out of business **because it was losing money.** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **The store made many sales,** but the prices must have been too low. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Perhaps the problem was **that the expenses were simply too high.** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **When the store paid its own bills,** there was no money left. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Naturally, the people **who owned the store** weren't happy. \_\_\_\_\_
6. **The owners announced** that they were selling the store. \_\_\_\_\_
7. **Although the store has been closed for six months,** I still miss it. \_\_\_\_\_
8. **I had hoped to work at that store** when I was old enough for a job. \_\_\_\_\_
9. **Doesn't the activity in a store appeal to you?** \_\_\_\_\_
10. Maybe the mall **where the store was** charged a high rent. \_\_\_\_\_
11. **If I ever start a store of my own,** I'll watch costs carefully. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Before I open the store, **I'll learn more about running a store.** \_\_\_\_\_

## B. Identifying and Correcting Fragments

This paragraph includes three dependent clauses that are not attached as they should be to independent clauses. Rewrite the paragraph, connecting the dependent clauses to independent clauses.

Most teenagers get an allowance. They can spend this money. However they choose. Some teens spend the money on clothing and other items that they need. Others spend their allowance carelessly on things. That are soon thrown away. Many teens save some of their allowance. Teens who save will have money. When they really need it.

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# What Is a Clause?

## Application

### A. Identifying Independent and Dependent Clauses

If an item is a sentence consisting of only one independent clause, write **IND** on the line. If it is a fragment consisting of only a dependent clause, write **DEP**. If the item is a sentence consisting of both an independent and a dependent clause, write either **IND + DEP** or **DEP + IND** to show the order of clauses.

**EXAMPLE** After the snow fell. *DEP*

1. Banks pay interest on the money that customers loan them. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Although savings accounts pay interest, the rate is usually low. \_\_\_\_\_
3. When customers take out loans, they pay the bank higher interest. \_\_\_\_\_
4. When my brother started college. \_\_\_\_\_
5. While opening a checking account has strict requirements, even children can open savings accounts. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Loretta has had a savings account since she was six years old. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Because 4th Street Savings and Loan pays high interest. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Some banks encourage savings accounts for young people. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Other banks charge fees on accounts that have only a few hundred dollars in them. \_\_\_\_\_
10. If you leave money in a savings account for at least six months. \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Correcting Fragments

In Exercise A, which items were fragments with the answer DEP? Write the numbers of those items on the lines below. Then complete each item by adding an independent clause to the dependent clause. Write the corrected sentence after the item number.

**EXAMPLE** After the snow fell.

*EX. The roads were slippery after the snow fell.*

Revision of # \_\_\_\_\_

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Revision of # \_\_\_\_\_

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Revision of # \_\_\_\_\_

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