



Building Complex Sentences with Dependent Clauses ¹

Level: Advanced (C-Level)

Practice 1

Instructions. Based on [this lesson about dependent and independent clauses](#), identify the main clause (the independent clause) in the sentences below.

Example 1: The toy we bought yesterday has already broken down.

Main Clause 1: The toy has already broken down.

Example 2: The woman I was talking to at the party was Professor Ecks's daughter.

Main Clause 2: The woman was Professor Ecks's daughter.

When you are done, see "Answer Key" to check your answers.

1. I cannot find the bottle of wine I bought last time I was in France.

Main clause: _____

2. The woman I was telling you about at the party has just arrived.

Main clause: _____

3. Caused by an extremely contagious virus, measles causes severe respiratory symptoms.

Main clause: _____

4. Even though Jordana was absent from half of her chemistry classes, she aced the exam that most students failed.

Main clause: _____

5. Although she missed many classes, she studied very hard on her own so that she could pass the exam.

Main clause: _____

6. The novel I started reading last month became very popular after a TV talk show host talked about it last week.

Main clause: _____

7. The store that opened in the mall less than a year ago is already going out of business.

Main clause: _____

8. The book that John Ecks wrote when he lived in Thailand has finally been published.

Main clause: _____

9. All students who took Professor Ecks's course will be at his retirement ceremony next week.

Main clause: _____

10. An avid gardener with many years of experience, John will be featured in a magazine article next month.

Main clause: _____

11. The neighbor's dog barked loudly whenever it heard the mail carrier coming.

Main clause: _____

12. My parents moved to the country to escape the chaotic life they had in the city.

Main clause: _____

13. I will go for a swim as soon as the rain stops and the weather improves.

Main clause: _____

14. He moved slowly and quietly because he did not want to wake the baby up.

Main clause: _____

15. Despite trying to reach John all day, his secretary was unable to talk to him.

Main clause: _____



Answer Key

1. I cannot find the bottle of wine.
2. The woman has just arrived.
3. Measles causes severe respiratory symptoms.
4. She (*Jordana*) aced the exam.
5. She studied very hard on her own.
6. The novel became very popular.
7. The store is already going out of business.
8. The book has finally been published.
9. All students will be at his (*Professor Ecks's*) retirement ceremony next week.
10. John will be featured in a magazine article next month.
11. The neighbor's dog barked loudly.
12. My parents moved to the country.
13. I will go for a swim.
14. He moved slowly and quietly.
15. His (*John's*) secretary was unable to talk to him.

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