

# Chapter 8, Lesson 1

What is a clause?

# Definition

A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb.

Two kinds:

- **Independent:** expresses a complete thought and can stand alone as a sentence
- **Dependent:** does NOT express a complete thought and CANNOT stand alone as a sentence

# Examples

Independent Clause:

Kate noted the day's events in her journal.

Dependent Clause:

Katie noted the day's events in her journal before she went to bed.

Subject / Verb / Dep. Clause “Clue Word”

# “Clue Words”

Dependent clauses always begin with a “clue word”.

- Subordinating Conjunction
- Relative Pronoun

These clue words make the clause rely on the other part of the sentence.

# Not a Prepositional Phrase

Sometimes those words can look like a preposition, but they always have both a subject and a verb that follow them.

Prep phrase: before the parade (no verb)

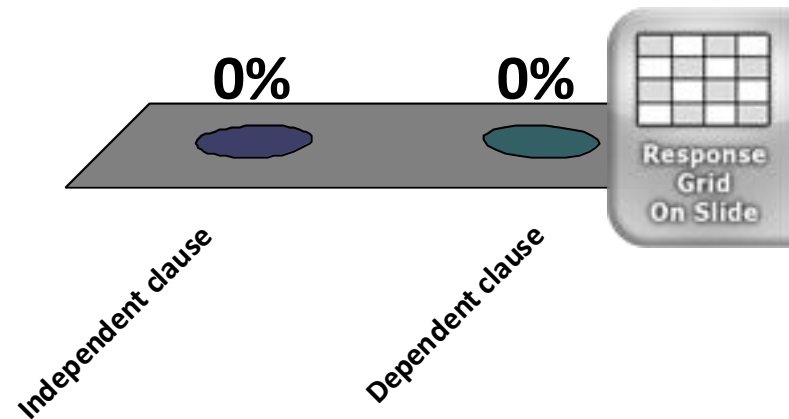
Dep. Clause: **before** the **parade begins** (subject & verb)

# Practice

- For the following slides, choose the best answer to describe the underlined portion of the sentence.

# Thirteen-year-old Kate is devoted to her horse Scarlet.

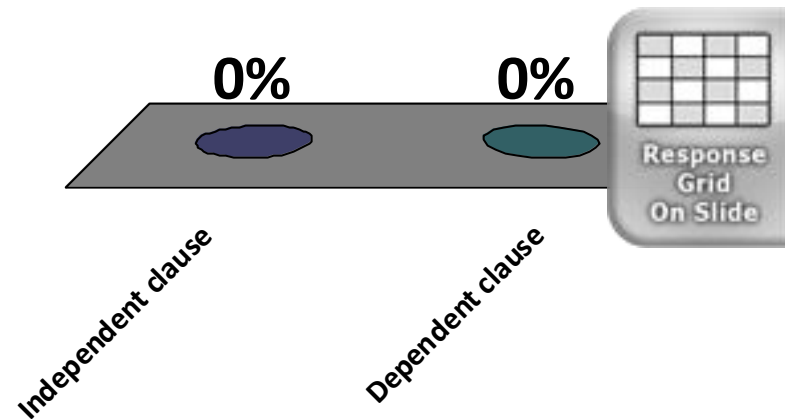
- 1. Independent clause
- 2. Dependent clause



They won their first competition together when Kate was only nine years old.

1. Independent clause

→ 2. Dependent clause

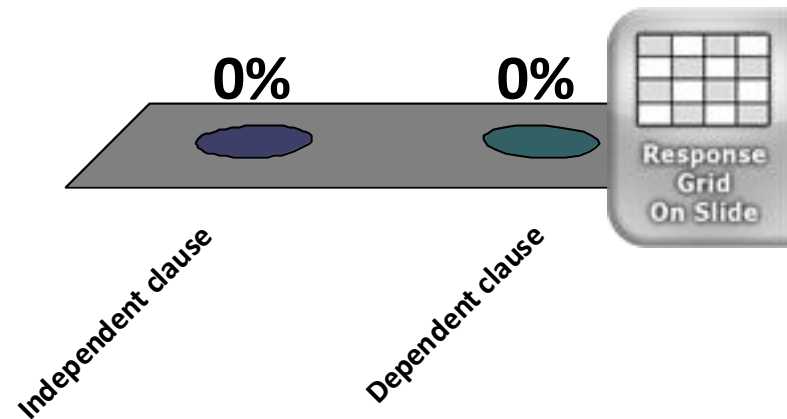




While her brothers sleep, Kate slips out to the stable.

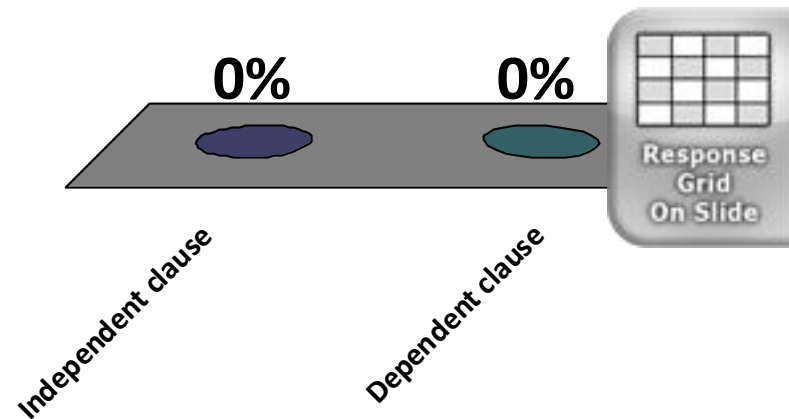
1. Independent clause

→ 2. Dependent clause



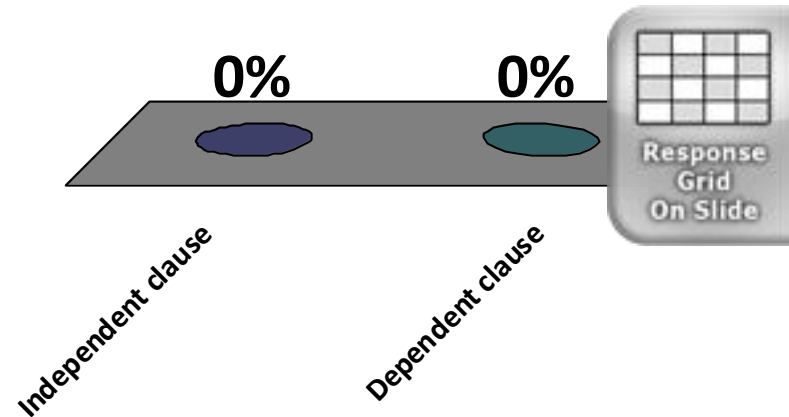
After she feeds Scarlet, Kate brushes her coat and mane.

- 1. Independent clause
- 2. Dependent clause



She does this so that Scarlet's coat stays shiny.

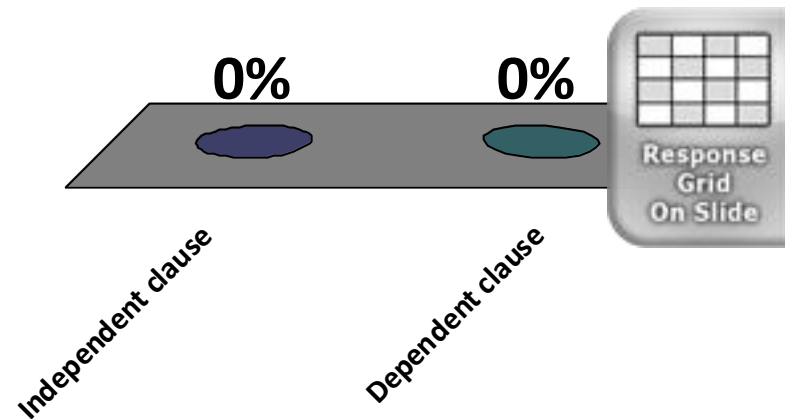
- 1. Independent clause
- 2. Dependent clause



Because Scarlet needs exercise, Kate rides her daily.

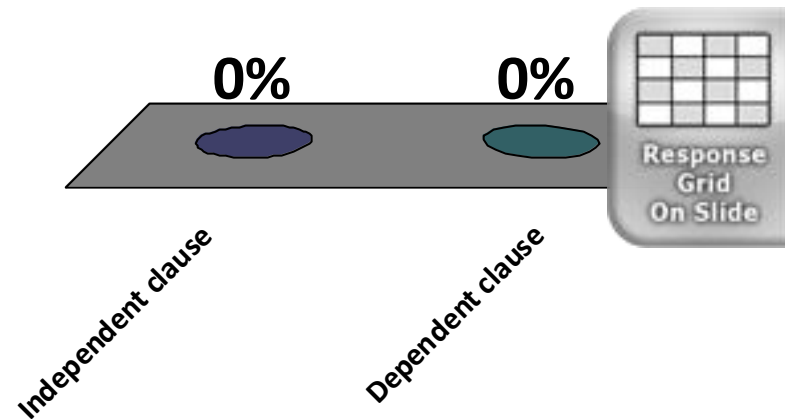
1. Independent clause

→ 2. Dependent clause



Kate and Scarlet entered a barrel-racing competition, which was very competitive.

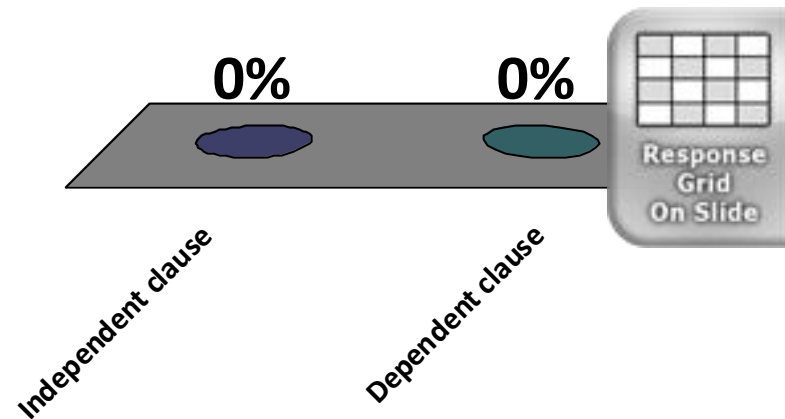
- 1. Independent clause
- 2. Dependent clause



Entrants raced around barrels that  
were put in the ring.

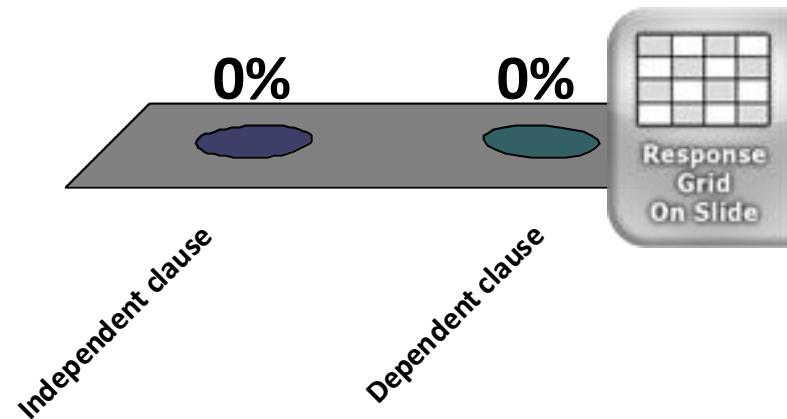
1. Independent clause

→ 2. Dependent clause



Kate and Scarlet's performance brought cheers from the crowd because they put everything they had into the race.

- 1. Independent clause
- 2. Dependent clause



Now Kate and Scarlet have more than a dozen ribbons, and Kate plans to keep competing in the rodeo.

- 1. Independent clause
- 2. Dependent clause

