

TEN-MINUTE GRAMMAR

DAY ONE

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

Decide whether each example below is an INDEPENDENT CLAUSE (answer YES or NO):

1. The little purple fairy.
2. She lived in the woods with all her fairy friends.
3. Her name was Violet.
4. Named after her great grandmother, the ugliest fairy in the forest.
5. Whenever someone calls Violet ugly.
6. Violet gets really mad, knocks the person out, and feeds him or her to the nearest tree troll.
7. She has anger issues.
8. According to her fairy psychiatrist.

Wordplay – Just for fun!

➤ **ANAGRAM:** Rearrange the letters in the nonsense phrase below to create new words that actually make sense.

ALL KEROSENE GLASS

(Hint: purple and gold ball players)

TEN-MINUTE GRAMMAR

DAY TWO

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

An INDEPENDENT CLAUSE is a group of words that can stand alone as a sentence and must contain a SUBJECT and a PREDICATE.

Read each of the following excerpts from Number the Stars by Lois Lowry and decide if it has a SUBJECT AND A PREDICATE (answer INDEPENDENT or NOT INDEPENDENT):

1. and now, three years later
2. King Christian was getting old
3. badly injured last year in a fall from his horse, faithful old Jubilee
4. had carried him around Copenhagen so many mornings
5. for days they thought he would die
6. and all of Denmark had mourned

Fill in the blank to complete the independent clause:

7. My new red bicycle _____.
8. _____ could destroy the entire planet.

Wordplay – Just for fun!

➤ **DESCRAMBLER:** Try to sort out the five scrambled words below:

YBBA GANOY FRTADE RNIGESW LUNKFNIG

TEN-MINUTE GRAMMAR

DRY
THREE

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

In your own words...

1. What is an independent clause?
2. Why does every sentence need to have at least one independent clause?

General Grammar Review:

3. Write an example of a **past perfect** verb phrase.
4. Is "to win" a **gerund** or an **infinitive**?

An **INDEPENDENT CLAUSE** must sound complete and must be able to stand alone as a full sentence.

Decide whether each example below is an **INDEPENDENT CLAUSE** (answer YES or NO):

5. That human and monkey DNA are very similar.
6. Researchers discovered something.
7. If I get a good grade in my science class.

Wordplay – Just for fun!

- **VOWEL COMBINATOR:** The vowel combination "ow" can sound like the hard "O" in "go" or the "ow" in "wow." List as many words as you can that contain "ow" making the hard "O" sound.

TEN-MINUTE GRAMMAR

DRY
FOUR

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

Read the following excerpt from Number the Stars by Lois Lowry and then answer the following questions:

- (a) Mama and Papa never spoke of Lise. They never opened the trunk.
- (b) But Annemarie did, when she was alone in the apartment; alone,
- (c) she touched Lise's things gently, remembering her soft-spoken sister
- (d) who had looked forward so to marriage and children of her own.

1. How many independent clauses does line (a) contain?
2. Is the underlined portion of line (b) an independent clause?
3. Is the underlined portion of line (c) an independent clause?
4. Is the underlined portion of line (d) an independent clause?

Using the proper proofreading marks, correct the six errors in this excerpt:

The hole world had changed. Only the fairy tales remained same. "And they lived happily ever after" Annemarie recited, whispering into the dark completing the tale for her sister, who slept beside her.

Wordplay – Just for fun!

- **CATALOGUE CREATOR:** The suffix "-ment" means "act or instance of." How many words can you list that contain this suffix?