

Independent and Subordinate Clauses

Task 1: Identify the independent and subordinate clauses in the sentences below:

1. As it was a blisteringly hot day, Nadiya thought she would buy ice cream for her friends.
2. The fish seemed happy enough although the water in their tank was murky.
3. Peter, despite the fact he was late for the meal, complained that his food was cold and inedible.

Task 2: Tick the sentences below that contain an embedded clause.

1. The penguin, looking to all the world like a fluffy toy, slid down the ice on its belly.
2. The window showed only the faintest glimmer of light in the sky despite the fact it was late morning.
3. Sharing a room with her brother, even though he as only small, was a catastrophe.
4. The magnificent building, only two years old, towered over everything in the city.

Task 3: All the commas have been left out of the following sentences. Put the commas in where necessary. REMEMBER: A subordinate clause is not always separated from the main clause by a comma.

1. Jess looked at her bird bought yesterday and decided it was the most beautiful thing she had ever seen.
2. With only candles to light the room Rory found it difficult to see anything at all.
3. The birdhouse was nailed precariously to the big oak tree in the garden a place where everything looked uncared for.

4. In a change to her usual routine Jenny went home via the park.

5. Looking up from her magazine Fatima scowled at Jeremy.