

A photograph of two hands shaking against a green background. The hand on the left is larger and wears a white ribbed sleeve. The hand on the right is smaller. The text 'Clauses' is overlaid in white, and 'Independent and dependent' is overlaid in black below it.

Clauses

Independent and dependent

Subject + Verb

after we go bowling

we love to eat Thai food

because she wants organic produce

Melissa is growing peppers and tomatoes

Clause? Or not?

After the game	Not: no verb
After you finish dinner	Yes!
Whenever she calls me	Yes!
Don't cross the street yet	Yes! (subject = you)
Dario has not arrived	Yes!
Since yesterday	Not: no subject or verb
Since you arrived	Yes!
Before going to bed	Not: no subject or verb
Before you go to bed	Yes!

Independent clauses

- ✓ Subject + verb
- ✓ Complete thought, does not leave you hanging
- ✓ Can be ended with a period like a simple sentence

Bob & Marcie love Thai food.

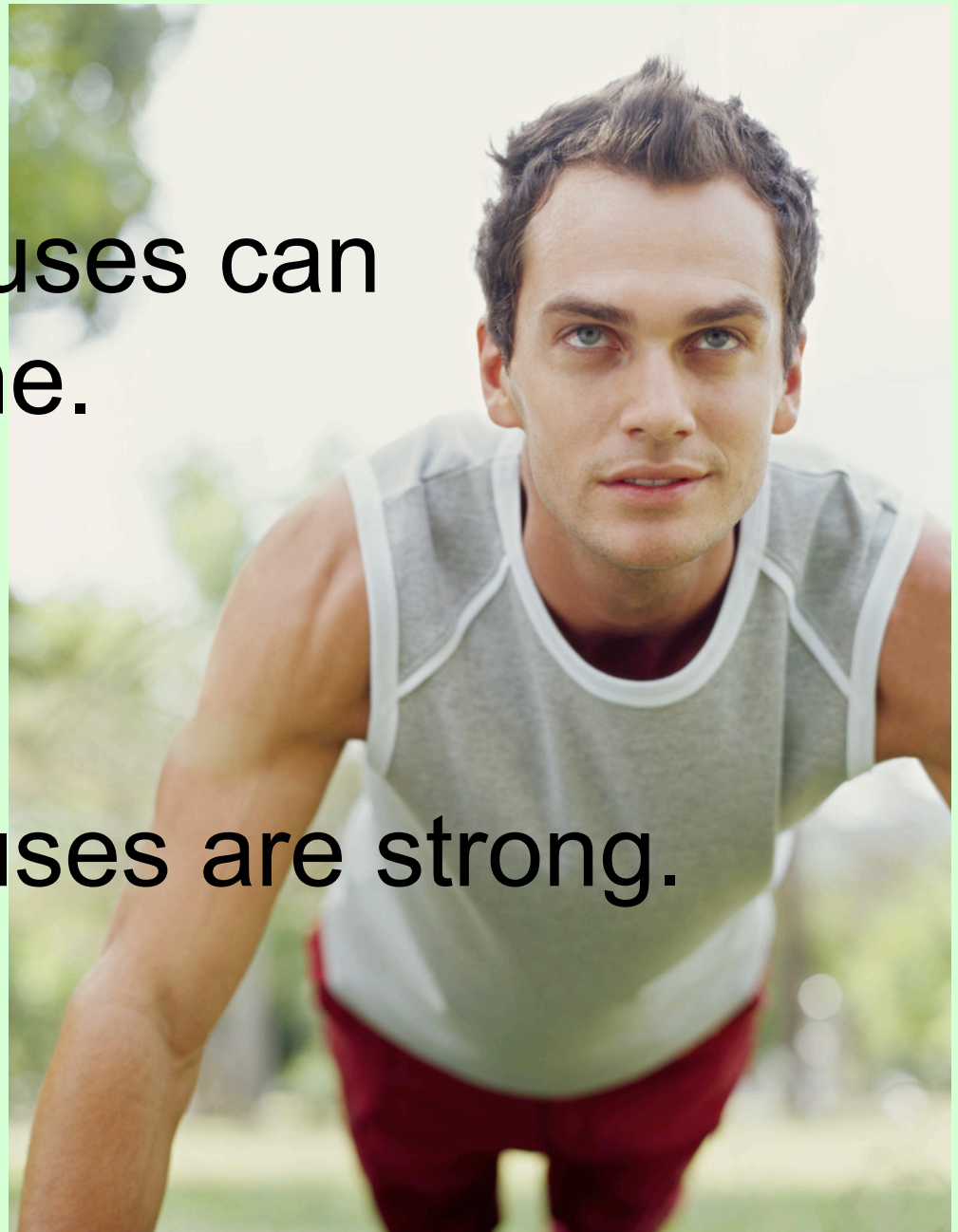
They eat there often and bring all their friends.

Bowling is fun.

Bowling shoes are stinky and sweaty.

Independent clauses can
stand alone.

Independent clauses are strong.



Compound sentences

Independent clause + **comma** + **FANBOYS** (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so) + independent clause.

We love Thai food, **so** we eat there often.


We can go bowling, **or** we can go to the movies.

Bowling is fun, **but** the shoes are so stinky!

Marcie is not very good at bowling, **yet** she loves it.



Compound sentences join equals.



Do *not*...

- ✓ Forget the comma
- ✓ Forget the FANBOYS

~~We love Thai food, we eat there often.~~

~~We love Thai food so we eat there often.~~

We eat there often, for we love Thai food.
We love Thai food, and we eat there often.
We avoid onion rings, nor do we like French fries.
We love Thai food, but we eat there seldom.
We eat at Lucky Thai, or we go to Thai Barbecue.
We love Thai food, yet we eat there seldom.
We love Thai food, so we eat there often.

A **comma alone** is **NOT** strong enough to join independent clauses (comma splice 😞)

FANBOYS alone are **NOT** strong enough to join independent clauses (run-on 😞)

Careful, don't go comma-crazy...

- Only use a comma before FANBOYS that join *independent clauses*.

He walked the dogs **but** forgot to feed the cats.

Sandra **and** Ana studied together **for** biology.

Amy is either tired **or** ill.

We rode the horses over the river **and** past the summit.

Compound sentences? Or not?

They drank coffee and studied at Starbuck's.

Clarissa studied biology, and Enrique did math.

After finals he will start working at Sam's Club, but she will stay home.

Anthony likes Fords, yet he bought a Nissan.

Do you want Coke or Pepsi with your burger?

The soccer team practices on Tuesdays and plays on Fridays.

We can go to the theater, or we can just rent a movie.

Dependent clauses

- ✓ Subject + verb
- ✓ **Incomplete**, leaves you waiting & wondering (fragment)
- ✓ **Cannot** be ended with a period

since we love Thai food

after we go bowling

because the shoes smell bad

Dependent clauses don't stand alone.

Dependent clauses need support.



Words that weaken clauses...

If you add a **dependent-making word** to a sentence, it **changes** the sentence into a dependent clause fragment.

because

we had eaten

as

we had eaten

when

we had eaten

as if

we had eaten

after

we had eaten

even though

we had eaten

since

we had eaten

though

we had eaten

if

we had eaten

before

we had eaten

although

we had eaten

whether

we had eaten

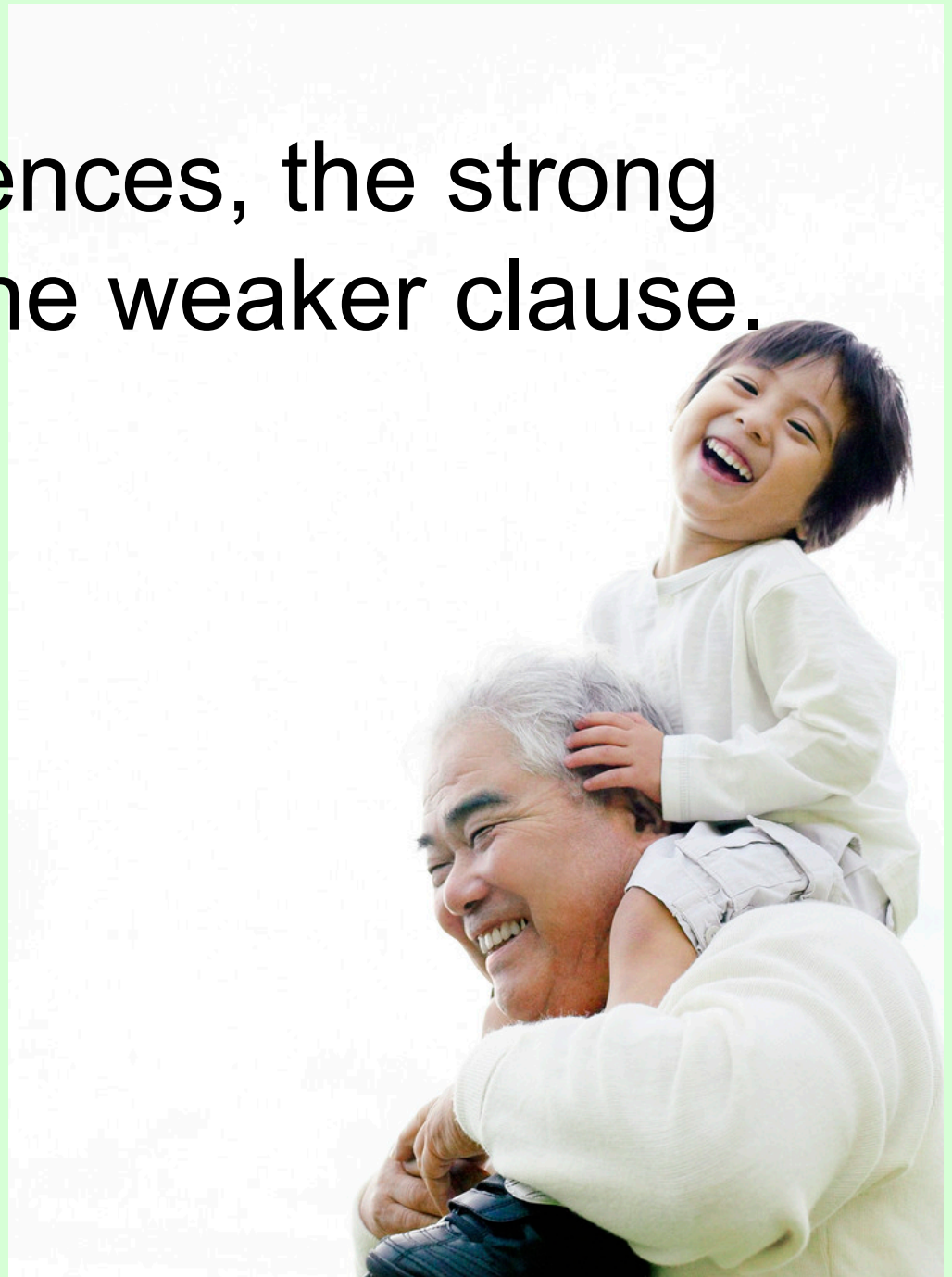
Complex sentences



Independent clause + dependent clause =
complex sentence

Dependent clause, + independent clause =
complex sentence

In complex sentences, the strong clause supports the weaker clause.



Independent clause + **dependent clause** = complex sentence

We eat there often since we love Thai food.

We will get ice cream after we go bowling.

Tiffany complains because the bowling shoes smell bad.

Dependent clause, + **independent clause** = complex sentence

Since we love Thai food, we eat there often.

After we go bowling, we will get ice cream.

Because the bowling shoes smell bad, Tiffany complains.

Find the **dependent** clauses in the following complex sentences:

After we stopped in Portland, we flew on to Ontario.

We can get lunch now if you want.

Even though I am hungry, I would rather not eat sushi.

Please lock the door when you leave.

Julio wants to know whether you will lend him your notes.

We have been waiting for you since the train arrived this morning.

The clouds look threatening, as if they will pour down rain any minute.

Make your own dependent clauses:

Because

When

Since

If

After

Before

Even though

Though

Although

Whether



What have we learned?

compound sentence

complex sentence

simple sentence

dependent clause

independent clause

sentence fragment

How can we use it?





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