Name: _____

Is It an Independent Clause or a Dependent Clause?

An independent, or coordinate, clause is a clause that expresses a complete thought and can stand alone.

A dependent, or subordinate, clause is a clause that does not express a complete thought and cannot stand alone.

Curt called his father who was still at work.

In the example *Curt called his father* is an independent clause. It would be a complete sentence without anything else added to it. The clause *who was still at work* is a dependent clause. It does not express a complete thought and is not a complete sentence.

Below are sentences with a clause underlined. In the blank below the sentence, write whether the underlined clause is independent or dependent.

1. The teacher <u>who lives next door to Rob</u> is Mrs. Johnson. _____

2. <u>Our dog will run away</u> if the gate is left open. _____

3. Because the storm knocked out the power, <u>school will be canceled on Thursday</u>. _____

4. This is the homework assignment <u>that you missed last week</u>. _____

5. <u>The movie was good</u> although it was too long. _____

6. Victoria heard <u>what her sister said</u>, but she ignored it. _____

7. The moon shone on the ocean <u>while the whales rose to the surface</u>. _____

8. <u>At the end of his class, Jim walked to his locker</u> where the coach was waiting. _____

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Below are sentences with a clause underlined. In the blank below the sentence, write whether the underlined clause is independent or dependent.

1. The teacher who lives next door to Rob is Mrs. Johnson. dependent

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5. The movie was good although it was too long. independent

6. Victoria heard what her sister said, but she ignored it. dependent

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