ACT® English Framework 1: Joining Clauses

Clauses

Independent clause (IC)	Stands alone as a sentence *James ran up the hill.*
Dependent clause (DC)	Cannot stand alone *While James ran up the hill.*
IC to DC	*because*, *while*, *although*, and *if* turn an IC into a DC

Patterns

Correct	**Incorrect**
IC. IC.	IC IC.
IC; IC.	IC, IC.
IC, FANBOYS + IC.	DC, DC.

How to spot an independent clause

Starts with a subject	Almost always an IC, even when the subject is just ***it*** or ***this***
Has a *to be* verb	Usually an IC (*is, was, were, are, has*)
Uses *being*	Never an IC, because *being* is not a verb