Independent Clauses

The star of the writing show!
So … what’s an independent clause?

- A group of words that can stand on its own as a sentence.
- What does it need to stand on its own?!?
Three things:
Subject

The “actor”
Verb

The action
And...

A complete thought
Huh?
• Because the dog was on fire.
• Subject: dog
• Verb: was
• Complete thought???
• I couldn’t finish my homework because the dog was on fire.
Complete thoughts?

• Since John ate all twenty-five Krystals at once.
• Even though Billy was the one who asked Martha Sue to the prom.
• Unless I take ballroom dancing classes with her.
• Whenever I see the purple cow in Mr. Jones’ field.
So, incomplete thoughts…

• Can’t stand alone as sentences
• Are known as fragments when they appear punctuated as sentences
• Are also known as dependent clauses
• In essays, are often “dangling from” the sentence before and should just be part of that sentence.
Find/ fix the fragments

- I had forgotten that today was school picture day. Although I got the announcement and had planned out my outfit a week ago. Part of the problem was I overslept. I’d skipped my shower and my breakfast, and I had no makeup on at all. So I hid in the bathroom when my class was called in to the photographer. Because I looked like a hobo, and Mom always sends those pictures to Grandma.