Grammar: Clauses

A **clause** is a phrase that contains both a subject and a predicate. It can stand alone or combine with other clauses to form a sentence.

An *independent clause* makes sense by itself. It can form a sentence on its own. For example, *Julia wants to go shopping* is an independent clause. A *dependent clause* needs the main clause to make its full meaning clear. For example, in the phrase *Julia wants to go shopping because she has nothing to wear*, the phrase *"because she has nothing to wear"* is a dependent clause.

1. Break the following sentences down into independent clauses.

Example:

Sentence: I was not very hungry, but I ate my lunch.

Clause 1: <u>I was not very hungry.</u>
Clause 2: <u>I ate my lunch.</u>

Sentence: Julia loves to wear bright colors, so she often dresses in red.

Clause 1: _____ *Clause 2:* _____

Sentence: Julia shops at secondhand stores because they have the best bargains.

Clause 1: _____ *Clause 2:* _____

2. Combine the clauses into one complete sentence. Use conjunctions, such as *and, because*, *but*, and *so,* to create the sentences.

Example:

Sentence: I did not eat the tuna sandwich. I do not like tuna.

Clause 1: <u>I did not eat the tuna sandwich because I do not like tuna.</u>

Clauses: Jamey likes to draw. He enjoys painting the most.

Sentence: _____

Clauses: Jamey wants to paint a picture. He takes out his paints and brushes.

Sentence: _____