

Sentence Fragments

A sentence fragment is a group of words punctuated as if it were a sentence, but does not express a complete thought. All sentences must have a subject, a verb, and express a complete thought.

<u>Fragment</u>	<u>What is missing...</u>
The damaged van.	a verb
Waiting for an answer.	a subject
Guests strolling on the beach.	not a complete thought
If it stops raining.	not a complete thought

Monday: Sentence or Fragment?

Decide whether each group of words is a sentence (S) or a fragment (F).

1. ___ Long, long ago, in a faraway land.
2. ___ There lived a princess named Gretchen.
3. ___ The most beautiful girl in the land.
4. ___ Her 21st birthday was approaching.
5. ___ She would have to marry King Jordan of Far Land.
6. ___ A very cruel and unkind man.
7. ___ Disguised herself as a maid and left the palace.
8. ___ She ran until she reached Near Land
9. ___ A happy and somewhat silly place full of very silly people.
10. ___ The princess lived happily in Near Land far away from King Jordan.

Adding necessary words to change fragments into sentences

Fragment	Sentence
During the scariest part of the movie.	<u>I closed my eyes</u> during the scariest part of the movie.
My father, a very large and strong man.	My father, a very large and strong man, <u>loved his family</u> .
Since we were hungry.	Since we were hungry, <u>we decided to bake cookies</u> . (notice the comma after the phrase <i>since we were hungry</i>)

Change the following fragments to sentences by adding necessary words.

1. Memories from long ago. _____
2. Learned a very valuable lesson. _____
3. One day, when I got off the bus. _____
4. Because it was very late. _____
5. Was a way of showing respect. _____

Tue: Correcting Fragments

Connecting Fragments to Nearby Sentences (be sure the sentences are related!)

A few customers stood at the door. Waiting to be seated. (fragment)
A few customers stood at the door waiting to be seated. (joined sentence)

The dragon was very beautiful. With huge, sharp claws. (fragment)
With huge, sharp claws scales, the dragon was very beautiful. (joined sentence)

Correct each fragment by connecting it to the related sentence. Underline the fragment.

1. A ship sailed into the harbor. Sailing a strange flag.

2. It was the worst day ever. Because I lost my homework.

3. The next morning we got up early. To go fishing.

4. After we pitched the tent. We decided to go swimming.

5. Over an open fire. We cooked hamburgers.

Thursday: Underline the fragments in the passage below. Then, rewrite the paragraph creating complete sentences. Be sure to eliminate the sentence fragments by making a new, separate sentence or connecting the fragment to a related sentence before or after it.

My birthday is coming up at the end of the month. I'm having a party at the YMCA. Inviting four friends and my cousin Alex. We will swim and play volleyball. Open gifts and eat cake and ice cream. Later my parents and I will go to a nice restaurant for supper. My grandparents too.
