

# Fragments and Run-ons

## EDITING PRACTICE

For the next two weeks, we will be practicing editing our work to correct any run-on sentences or any fragments. By \_\_\_\_\_, please complete the following Odyssey folder that will enhance your Run-on and Fragment practice.

Assignment Name: Fragments and Run-ons Folder		
Level: 8		Subject: LA Extensions
Task Type	Task Title	Subject
-6427	Sentence School (fragments and run-ons)	LA Extensions
-8206	Colons and Semicolons I	LA Extensions
-8207	Colons and Semicolons II	LA Extensions

### FRAGMENT and RUN-ON FACTS

- A sentence **MUST** have a **subject** (*the topic*) and a **predicate/verb** (*a comment about the topic*).
- Sentences are independent; they can stand on their own.
- A fragment is dependent; it can't stand on its own.
- A fragment (*dependent*) **MUST** lean on an independent sentence.
- Two sentences (*independent clauses*) put together into one is a **compound sentence**.
- Two ways to correctly punctuate a compound sentence:

;

, **FANBOYS** (coordinating conjunctions)

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

- You can come to a complete stop between the two sentences with:

• **Capital**

- A **run-on** is a compound sentence that is not punctuated correctly.
  - Two sentences connected with just a comma – **COMMA SPLICE**.
  - Two sentences connected with just a coordinating conjunction.
  - Two sentences connected without any punctuation at all.

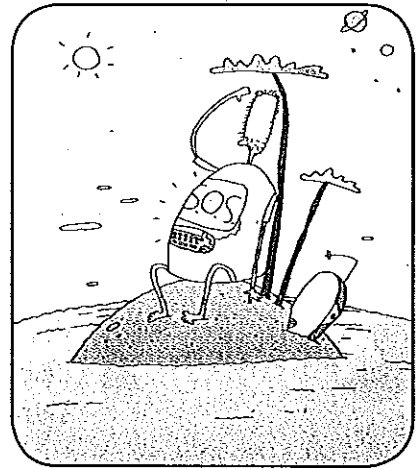
## DAY 1 - FIXING FRAGMENTS

<b>NOTICE</b>	<p>"They handle the BB gun carelessly, trading it back and forth, each slinging the barrel over his shoulder like a hunter in a frontier television show." --<i>Winter Birds</i> (Grimsley)</p>
<b>GRAMMAR POINT</b>	
<b>INVESTIGATE</b>	<p>"Abraham was growing fast, shooting up like a sunflower, a spindly youngster with big boney hands, unruly black hair, a dark complexion, and luminous gray eyes." --<i>Lincoln: A Photobiography</i> (Freedman)</p> <p>"Furlough found his brother in the library, standing on top of the great open book, his tail wrapped tightly around his feet, his small body shivering." --<i>The Tale of Despereaux</i> (DiCamillo)</p>
<b>TRY IT OUT!</b>	

## DAY 2

# Sentence Fragments 1

A sentence fragment may look and sound like a sentence, but it isn't. It is a group of words that is missing either a subject or a verb or that doesn't express a complete thought. (See pages 502–503 in *Write Source* for examples of this type of sentence error.)



### Examples

*Sentence Fragment:*

Also commonly referred to as seas.

*Corrected Sentence:*

Oceans are also commonly referred to as seas.

(A subject and a verb have been added to make this a sentence.)

### Directions

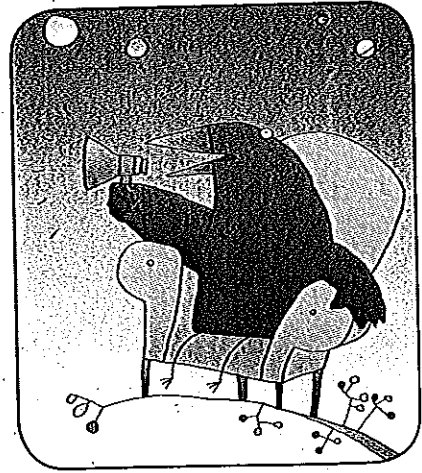
Some of the following groups of words are sentences, and some are not. Write an "S" on the line before each sentence; write an "F" before each fragment. Correct the fragments.

- F   1. *Oceans cover*  
~~Covering~~ more than 70 percent of the world's surface.
2. Oceans maintain the earth's climate by regulating air temperature.
3. Supplying moisture for rain.
4. The Pacific Ocean, by far the largest individual ocean.
5. The Pacific covers nearly a third of the earth's surface.
6. It is also the deepest ocean, with an average depth of 12,900 feet.
7. Every natural element found in the water of the oceans.
8. Evaporation, which removes freshwater from the oceans, leaving  
the salt behind.
9. Rain returns freshwater to the oceans.
10. Currents running through the seas like giant rivers.

## DAY 3

# Sentence Fragments 2

A sentence fragment is not a complete sentence. This group of words may look like a sentence, but it is missing a subject or a verb or is an incomplete thought. (See pages 502–503 in *Write Source*.)



### Examples

*Sentence Fragment:* Slept curled up on the rug.  
(no subject)

*Complete Sentence:* The dog slept curled up on the rug. (A subject is added.)

*Sentence Fragment:* The crow sitting in the tree. (no verb)

*Complete Sentence:* The crow sitting in the tree squawked. (A verb is added.)

*Sentence Fragment:* Not a good idea. (no subject or verb)

*Complete Sentence:* Pulling a dog's tail is not a good idea.

(A subject "pulling a dog's tail" and a verb "is" are added.)

### Directions

On the lines provided, write an "S" if the fragment needs a subject, a "V" if it needs a verb, or a "B" if it needs both a subject and a verb. Then choose from the list of possible answers in the column at the left to turn the fragment into a sentence.

Subjects and verbs
Kittens are
Barked
Cats had
Ran
<del>Is tired</del>
The dog
Cats have
Herding dogs

- V   1. The dog running after the stick. <sup>is tired</sup>
2. Chased a flying disk through the yard.
3. Across the field and around the birdhouse, the crazy cat.
4. Find and herd cattle and sheep out in fields.
5. Good hearing, a keen sense of smell, and great night vision.
6. Born blind, deaf, and helpless.
7. After hearing the strange noise, the dog.
8. Their pictures on ancient Greek coins.

## DAY 3 – continued



### Directions

Each would-be sentence below does not express a complete thought. Add words or phrases so that these fragments become complete sentences. (Rewrite the sentences on the line if necessary.)

1. Dogs and cats in the same household.

---

2. People who like dogs are.

---

3. Why dogs howl at the moon.

---

4. Unless the dog is trained to heel.

---

5. Our cat and her toy mouse.

---

6. Because cats would stay out all night.

---

7. Which is probably why a dog scratches its ears.

---

8. Where most house cats enjoy hanging out.

---

9. The dog and her puppies.

---

# DAY 4

## SENTENCE TO CORRECT

“Be kind. For everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle,” stated plato, a  
Philosopher and Educator.

## RULES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## JOURNAL YOUR THOUGHTS

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>Recap the quote in your own words</i></li><li>2. <i>Share your opinion</i></li><li>3. <i>Offer a personal experience to prove your opinion</i></li><li>4. <i>Include the importance of this quote in the future / to your life / to the world</i></li></ol> |
|---|

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# DAY 5

## SENTENCE TO CORRECT

“The game of life is the game of boomerangs. Our thoughts , deeds, and words return to us sooner or later. With astounding accuracy,” stated american illustrator, Florence Shinn.

## RULES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## JOURNAL YOUR THOUGHTS

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>Recap the quote in your own words</i></li><li>2. <i>Share your opinion</i></li><li>3. <i>Offer a personal experience to prove your opinion</i></li><li>4. <i>Include the importance of this quote in the future / to your life / to the world</i></li></ol> |
|---|

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## DAY 6 - FIXING RUN-ONS

<b>NOTICE</b>	<p>“Brown smoke rolled across the ground; it rose and raced away through neighboring armies of cane. It swallowed boys.” --<i>Boys of Blur</i> (Wilson)</p>
<b>GRAMMAR POINT</b>	
<b>INVESTIGATE</b>	<p>“Dad did everything he could to be a good father. We joined the Boy Scouts; Dad joined the Boy Scouts. We became junior volunteer firemen; Dad became a junior volunteer fireman.” --<i>Give the Pig a Chance and Other Stories</i> (Rice)</p> <p>“Tonight , though, there seems to be a delay, and I pick up from the chatter that something special is going on.” --<i>Cut</i> (McCormick)</p>
<b>TRY IT OUT!</b>	



## DAY 7

# Comma Splices

A comma splice happens when two sentences are connected with only a comma. They should be joined with a comma and a coordinating conjunction (*and, but or, nor, for, so, yet*), joined by a semicolon, or made into two separate sentences. (See page 504 in *Write Source* for more information.)



### Example

*Comma Splice:*

Eating healthful food is good, sometimes you just crave junk food.

*Corrected Sentence:*

Eating healthful food is good, but sometimes you just crave junk food.

### Directions

Fix each comma splice by adding a connecting word ("and," "but," "or," "nor," "for," "so," "yet"), replacing the comma with a semicolon, or breaking the sentence into two sentences. The first one has been done for you.

1. Many foods that are labeled "natural" are full of sugar and salt, <sup>and</sup> some "low-fat" foods have unhealthy ingredients.
2. Air-popped popcorn is fluffy and white, movie-theater popcorn is soggy and yellow.
3. Candy bars taste better than energy bars, both kinds of bars give you an energy boost.
4. There are regular, no-fat, and low-fat potato chips, the tastiest potato chips are flavored with barbecue, sour cream, and onions.
5. Flour is the main ingredient in bread, rolls, and English muffins, it is also a major ingredient in cakes, donuts, and pies.
6. Some people think pizza is a fattening food, it definitely can be.



# DAY 9

## SENTENCE TO CORRECT

“A man who buys a book is not just buying a few ounces of paper, glue, and printer’s ink, he may be buying a whole new life,” offered american poet, Ralph Waldo Emerson.

## RULES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## JOURNAL YOUR THOUGHTS

1. *Recap the quote in your own words*
2. *Share your opinion*
3. *Offer a personal experience to prove your opinion*
4. *Include the importance of this quote in the future / to your life / to the world*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# DAY 10

## Run-Ons

A run-on sentence happens when two sentences run together without punctuation or without a comma and a connecting word (coordinating conjunction). (See page 504 in *Write Source* for more information.)

### Example

*Run-On Sentence:*

My grandfather ate unhealthy foods all of his life he lived to be 91.

*Corrected Sentence:*

My grandfather ate unhealthy foods all of his life, but he lived to be 91.

### Directions

Correct each run-on sentence below by making it into either two sentences (add end punctuation) or one sentence (add a semicolon or add a comma and a coordinating conjunction). Try to correct at least half of the run-ons by adding a comma and a coordinating conjunction. The first one has been done for you.

1. Corn syrup is found in soft drinks and candy bars<sup>and</sup>, it is high in calories.
2. There's corn syrup and high-fructose corn syrup I don't know the difference.
3. I do know that corn syrup contains dextrin, maltose, and dextrose I also know that corn syrup comes from the hydrolysis of cornstarch.
4. Hydrolysis sounds like a chemical process it must be helpful.
5. I'm still not sure what corn syrup is I don't know anything about dextrin.
6. Corn syrup tastes good it is sometimes cheaper to use than regular sugar.
7. I know what is in "100 percent fruit juice" maybe that's what I will drink.
8. My brother drinks only bottled water he says it has no additives.

# DAY 11

## SENTENCE TO CORRECT

“A man’s reading program should be as carefully planned as his daily diet. For that too is food. Without which he cannot grow mentally,” stated Andrew Carnegie, industrialist and philanthropist.

### RULES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

### JOURNAL YOUR THOUGHTS

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>Recap the quote in your own words</i></li><li>2. <i>Share your opinion</i></li><li>3. <i>Offer a personal experience to prove your opinion</i></li><li>4. <i>Include the importance of this quote in the future / to your life / to the world</i></li></ol> |
|---|

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# DAY 12

## SENTENCE TO CORRECT

american businessman J. C. Penney encouraged, "there is nothing that will strengthen the mind, broaden the vision, and enrich the soul. Like the reading of good books one can find or make no better friend than a good book."

## RULES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## JOURNAL YOUR THOUGHTS

1. *Recap the quote in your own words*
2. *Share your opinion*
3. *Offer a personal experience to prove your opinion*
4. *Include the importance of this quote in the future / to your life / to the world*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

