**what is a sentence fragment?**

Is a sentence that does not express a complete thought. It may lack a subject, a verb, or both.

A sentence fragment is a group of words that looks like a sentence, but actually isn’t a complete sentence. Sentence fragments are usually missing a subject or verb, or they do not express a complete thought. While it may be punctuated to look like a complete sentence, a fragment cannot stand on its own.

**Case one:**

**To correct sentence fragments, add what is missing so that the words make sense by themselves and express a complete thought.**

Examples of sentence fragments:

1. Fragment: The first people to live in North America.

(the verb is missing, what did these people do?)

Sentence: the first people to live in North America came from Asia.

1. Fragment: Over hundreds of years, settled into a variety of tribes.

(the subject is missing, who settled into tribes)

Sentence: over hundreds of years, Native Americans settled into tribes.

**Case two:**

**Some sentence fragments have a subject and a verb but do not express a complete thought. Correct these fragments by attaching the fragment into a sentence that comes before it or after it.**

Example:

Fragment: Buffalo hide was used to cover tepees. Because it was strong and flexible.

(the second word group is a subordinate clause and it does not express a complete thought)

Sentence: Buffalo hide was used to cover tepees because it was strong and flexible.

Read the sentences below. Write SF for a sentence fragment or CS for a complete sentence. Correct each fragment on the next line.

1. Even though drums are the coolest instruments. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Symphony orchestras are located across the world. \_\_\_\_\_\_
3. In huge concert halls with expensive sound systems. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The only time we went to the symphony. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. The low notes of the notes. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. The concert hall a converted movie theater. \_\_\_\_\_\_
7. When the opening band played too long. \_\_\_\_\_
8. During the intermission at 8 pm. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What is a run-on sentence?**

If you run together two or more complete sentence as if they were as single sentence, you create a run- on sentence.

Some run-on sentences have no punctuation mark between the two sentences.

Example 1:

The eye witness stared hard at the back of the speeding vehicle she could not see the license plate number.

In other run on sentences, only a comma is used between the two sentences. However, a comma alone cannot join two complete sentences.

Example 2:

Four police officers ran to the injured child, he was only six or seven yeas old.

Run on sentences can be confusing because a reader cannot tell where one idea ends and another starts. You can correct a run-on sentence in several ways.

Way number 1:

Rewrite a run-on sentence as two separate sentences.

Example 1:

The eye witness stared hard at the back of the speeding vehicle. She could not see the license plate number.

Way number 2:

Use a comma and a coordinating conjunction to join the two sentences. Coordinating conjunctions are the joining words and, or, nor, but, for, so, yet.

Example 2:

The eye witness stared at the back of the speeding vehicle, but she could not see the license plate number.

Way number 3:

Join the two sentences with a semi-colon -;- . use this method only if the sentences are closely related. Notice that the second part of the sentence does not begin with a capital letter.

Example 3:

Four police officers ran to the injured child; he was only six or seven years old.

Read the sentences below, and identify whether or not they are run-ons.

1. If a sentence is a run-on, correct it by using one of the three ways discussed previously. Write your revised sentences on the next line.
2. If the sentence is already correct, label it with a C.
3. We had one snow day this year, I went sledding with my brother, my sister did not go.
4. The best sledding hill in town, Art Hill, is located in front of the art museum.
5. Sometimes I ride down the hill I convince my brother to bring the sled back up.
6. Even though I love sledding, sometimes the lack of control scares me .
7. At the top of the Art Hill, a man sells hot chocolate I bet he gets a lot of business on snowy days.