

UNIT 8 – AVOIDING FRAGMENTS AND RUN-ONS

Sentence Fragments

A word or word group that has been broken off from a sentence is a sentence fragment.

Mark the complete sentences with an S and the sentence fragments with an F.

EXAMPLE : S We went to a lake.
 F For two weeks.

1. _____ Until the last day
2. _____ Coming late tonight
3. _____ The loud explosion scared me
4. _____ Too late to matter
5. _____ Had the right answer
6. _____ Because he heard the band playing
7. _____ Spring is here
8. _____ The snow has melted
9. _____ In front of the last house
10. _____ Through she didn't complain
11. _____ The fog began to lift
12. _____ What we need is some free time
13. _____ The new singing rage on television
14. _____ The alarm rang at seven o'clock
15. _____ As early as possible
16. _____ Hardly another person on the street
17. _____ The plane travels faster than the speed of sound
18. _____ Without damaging the metal
19. _____ We are investigating the surface of the moon
20. _____ Learning more about our solar system each day
21. _____ Come here
22. _____ Are you ill

Mark the complete sentences with an S and the sentence fragments with an F

1. That lay on the floor
2. The old tree was struck by lightning
3. The creaking sound of a rusty gate
4. Just as I fell asleep
5. Jud crawled into the tent
6. He laughed
7. The girls laughing and crying
8. If we get enough rain

9. Riding through the fog
10. The fire gone from the stove
11. I live in that hotel
12. At the other end of the rope
13. He turned as slowly as he could
14. They were gathering rocks
15. The cake is ruined
16. If the cookies are burned
17. Brought the first valentine to Mother
18. The car turning the corner
19. After Joe finished his dinner
20. Tall building on the right
21. Over the lawn and onto the porch
22. Ground covered with snow

Sentence/Fragment/Run-on

A sentence has a subject and a verb and makes a complete thought. A fragment is a word or word group that has been broken off from a sentence. A run-on sentence is the result of connecting sentences with a comma or connecting sentences with a mark of punctuation. Mark complete sentences with an S, sentence fragments with an F, and run-on sentences with RO.

1. _____ The man that I saw yesterday.
2. _____ He is not an exceptional student, he is only average.
3. _____ To know everything is quite impossible.
4. _____ Because I have no money.
5. _____ Open the door very slowly.
6. _____ The rainfall this year was abundant, therefore, the crops will be plentiful.
7. _____ Having finished, my dinner, I sat down to an evening of television.
8. _____ America, the greatest country in the world.
9. _____ I went in, I bought the painting, I drove straight home.
10. _____ Hurry up!
11. _____ High grades do not come easily; but, they are earned by hard word and perseverance.
12. _____ On the desk a knife which he used to open letters.
13. _____ Since we had no money and no transportation.
14. _____ Can we see well enough by the dawn's early light for find fire wood?
15. _____ I studied for my math exam for six hours, I still did not pass.
16. _____ On the ledge far above us sat a curious mountain lion.
17. _____ Which was given to Mr. Jones, who had helped most in the long campaign to raise funds for the school gym.
18. _____ Up the stairs trudged two reluctant six year olds they were being made to go to bed.
19. _____ Suddenly, silence reigned after a long violent storm.
20. _____ Reading the book with the gold lettering on the cover.

21. _____ The first evening of rehearsal was a fiasco no one knew his lines.
22. _____ Both Mary and Joe, the elected co-chairpersons.
23. _____ She gulped, she twisted her hair, and she sputtered as she tried to speak to the President.
24. _____ Where have all the flowers gone?

Run-on Sentences

Make corrections in punctuation and capitalization in the sentences below.

look at your fingertips and you will see small ridges in the skin the pattern of those ridges is different from anyone else's fingerprints fingerprints never change if the skin were burned off your fingertips time and time again your fingerprints would be the same as they were once the skin heals

there are many different characteristics on each fingertip each finger has about 100 different marks no two fingers are the same hand are alike no two fingerprints have yet been found to be exactly alike

everything that is touched by a person carries his fingerprints criminals are captured by the police because their fingerprints are found on objects associated with the crime

the Chinese were the first people to use fingerprinting thousands of years ago today all the countries use fingerprints to identify people the FBI in Washington has a collection of almost 160 million fingerprints

UNIT 8 – AVOIDING FRAGMENTS AND RUN-ONS (ANSWERS)

Sentence Fragments

1. F 2. F 3. S 4. F 5. F 6. F 7. S 8. S 9. F 10. F 11. S 12. S 13. F
14. S 15. F 16. F 17. S 18. F 19. S 20. F 21. S 22. S

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14. S 15. S 16. F 17. F 18. F 19. F 20. F 21. F 22. F

Sentence / Fragment / Run-on

1. F 2. RO 3. S 4. F 5. S 6. RO 7. S 8. F 9. RO 10. S 11. S 12. F 13. F
14. S 15. RO 16. S 17. F 18. RO 19. S 20. F 21. RO 22. F 23. S 24. S

Run-on Sentences

Look at your fingerprints, and you will see small ridges in the skin. The pattern of those ridges is different from anyone else's fingerprints. Fingerprints never change. If the skin were burned off your fingertips time and time again, your fingerprints would be the same as they were once the skin heals.

There are many different characteristics on each fingertip. Each finger has about 100 different marks. No two fingers on the same hand are alike. No two fingerprints have as yet been found to be exactly alike.

Everything that is touched by a person carries his fingerprints. Criminals are captured by the police because their fingerprints are found on objects associated with the crime.

The Chinese were the first people to use fingerprinting thousands of years ago. Today, all countries use fingerprints to identify people. The FBI in Washington has a collection of almost 160 million fingerprints.