

22.4 Fragments (Recognizing Fragments) • Practice 1

Fragments A fragment is a group of words that does not express a complete thought. Part of a sentence should not be presented as a full sentence ending with a period or other end mark.

Fragments	Sentences
Because we missed the train	We were late because we missed the train.
After the rainfall	After the rainfall, the river rose.
Without looking back	Sue got on the train without looking back.
The boy wearing the green shirt	The boy wearing the green shirt is Tim.
Hope to return to New York someday	They hope to return to New York someday.

Exercise 1 Identifying Sentence Fragments. Write whether each group of words is a sentence or a fragment.

EXAMPLE: Riding on the Orient Express. fragment

- To see the new museum was a real thrill. _____
- Which Cindy got for her birthday. _____
- Who won? _____
- The player with the lowest score. _____
- Enjoys working out at the gym. _____
- Stop. _____
- The smell of buttery popcorn. _____
- The most amazing thing about Andrew. _____
- Playing musical chairs. _____
- My bike is missing. _____
- What time is it? _____
- After searching high and low. _____
- The combination of diet, rest, and exercise. _____
- Surrounded by a line of poplars. _____
- The movie is hilarious. _____
- Bagels used to be found only in the East. _____
- Whoever you want. _____
- After the circus had come to our town. _____
- Beyond the ridge lay another valley. _____
- Known for good service, the restaurant prospered. _____

Exercise 2 Identifying Fragments in a Paragraph. Underline each sentence fragment in the paragraph below.

EXAMPLE: We gathered all our equipment. Before setting out on our camping trip.
 (1) We each had a sleeping bag and backpack. (2) Which we would carry ourselves. (3) Dad would drag the tent behind him on poles. (4) As some Indians had dragged their tepees. (5) The day before the expedition. (6) We had done our food shopping. (7) Our main purchases had been lightweight, dried foods. (8) Including rice, nuts and dried fruit, and beans. (9) After one last check of our list. (10) We were ready to start out on our adventure.

22.4 Fragments (Recognizing Fragments) • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Identifying Sentence Fragments. Identify each item as a fragment or sentence.

- EXAMPLE: Leaving early in the morning. fragment
- A bouquet of freshly cut flowers. _____
 - Will arrive between one and two o'clock. _____
 - In the jar on top of the refrigerator. _____
 - Swimming, skiing, or boating on the lake. _____
 - That hurts. _____
 - Wanting to write to you. _____
 - To know her is to admire her. _____
 - Broke all speed records in the last race. _____
 - After you sit down, I will begin. _____
 - A doctor of great skill and devotion to her patients. _____
 - While we were swimming. _____
 - Please be seated. _____
 - Seeing my friend at the concert. _____
 - If the train is not late. _____
 - John was angry with us. _____
 - Because the rain has stopped. _____
 - Someone left a mess behind. _____
 - Everyone had voted. _____
 - Which hangs on the wall. _____
 - Until the next time we meet. _____

Exercise 2 Identifying Fragments in a Paragraph. Underline each sentence fragment in the paragraph below.

EXAMPLE: (1) The football game would begin in less than five minutes. (2) Weren't in our seats yet.
 (1) Basketball is the only major sport that originated in the United States. (2) Invented by a Canadian, James Naismith, who was teaching at the Y.M.C.A. in Springfield, Massachusetts, at the time. (3) The students there were studying to become secretaries and physical education instructors. (4) Bored with the marching, calisthenics, and gymnastics that made up their gym classes. (5) The head of the department had a talk with Naismith. (6) In the fall of 1891. (7) Asking the Canadian teacher to develop a game that could be played in a gym. (8) Had no physical contact. (9) Lightweight ball. (10) to make it safe for the students and also for the school's gym. (11) Each player was to have an equal chance to handle the ball. (12) And to make plays. (13) By December, Naismith had developed what he called "the game." (14) Intended to nail up some boxes to serve as targets. (15) No boxes being available, they nailed up some half-bushel peach baskets instead. (16) The game was soon called *basket ball*. (17) By 1902 the word was often hyphenated. (18) Becoming *basket-ball*. (19) It wasn't until about 1912 that the name of the game was written as one word. (20) It's interesting to note that if the school had had some boxes, we might be playing *boxball* today.

22.4 Fragments (Correcting Fragments) • Practice 1

Correcting Fragments A phrase should not be capitalized and punctuated as if it were a sentence.

Phrase Fragments	Completed Sentences
a person with great integrity	A person with great integrity is needed.
followed us home	A stray dog followed us home.
throughout the house	We searched throughout the house.
fed by the spring	The river fed by the spring is cold.

A subordinate clause should not be capitalized and punctuated as if it were a sentence.

Clause Fragments	Completed Sentences
whom I greatly respect	Lee is someone whom I greatly respect.
just as we began our picnic	The rain started just as we began our picnic.
what I asked	What I asked was impossible to do.

Words in a series should not be capitalized and punctuated as if they were a sentence.

Series Fragment	Completed Sentence
blueberry pie, strawberry shortcake, and cherry cheesecake	The dessert choices include blueberry pie, strawberry shortcake, and cherry cheesecake.

Exercise 1 Identifying Kinds of Sentence Fragments. After each item below, write phrase, clause, series, or sentence to describe the word group.

- EXAMPLE: Wherever you want them. clause
- To make friends in a new place. _____
 - A wide meadow, a babbling brook, and bright sunshine. _____
 - Please wait for me. _____
 - That you invited to the party. _____
 - You succeeded. _____
 - Without a second thought. _____
 - Whenever you are ready. _____
 - Offered by the dog's owner. _____
 - Take your mark. _____
 - The action during the first scene. _____

Exercise 2 Correcting Fragments. Turn five of the fragments in Exercise A into sentences.

- EXAMPLE: I will put these boxes wherever you want them.
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

22.4 Fragments (Correcting Fragments) • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Using Phrase Fragments to Write Sentences. Use each fragment in a complete sentence.

- EXAMPLE: Among the clouds.
Our hot-air balloon rose higher and higher until it floated among the clouds.
- on the front page _____
 - to sing folk songs professionally _____
 - many beautiful birds _____
 - drinking from a green glass _____
 - a dark, menacing cloud _____

Exercise 2 Using Clause Fragments to Write Sentences. Use each fragment in a complete sentence.

- when I awoke this morning _____
- that my class likes best _____
- unless you practice each day _____
- if it is cold tomorrow _____
- who waited in line _____

Exercise 3 Using Series Fragments to Write Sentences. Use each of the following fragments in a complete sentence.

- calico kittens, green parakeets, and dachshund puppies _____
- ran, stopped, and jumped _____
- in the drawer, on the top shelf of the closet, or under the sink _____
- deep orange, yellow, or red _____
- slowly, methodically, and quite gracefully _____