

21.4

Avoiding Fragments (Recognizing Fragments)**• Practice 1**

Recognizing Fragments A fragment is a group of words that does not express a complete thought. It is only part of a sentence. Any group of words that cannot stand alone is a fragment.

Fragments	Complete Sentences
at the football game	<u>We met</u> at the football game.
should have arrived there	My <u>family</u> <u>should have arrived</u> there.
a woman in a yellow dress	A <u>woman</u> in a yellow dress <u>asked</u> to see you.
when I received the letter	When I received the letter, <u>I answered</u> immediately.

Exercise 1 Recognizing Fragments. Label each fragment *F* and each sentence *S*.

EXAMPLE: Since you expect an answer now. *F*

1. Would be able to go tomorrow.
2. If I can remember the directions to her house.
3. We can leave at once.
4. At the end of the first half.
5. A group of boys charging down the path.
6. When we spoke to them on the phone yesterday.
7. The arrangements have been made in advance.
8. In spite of all their objections.
9. Have not charged full price for this album.
10. Birds sing.

Exercise 2 Recognizing More Fragments. Follow the directions in Exercise 1.

1. On the morning of the big game.
2. Leave now.
3. A bus racing toward the intersection.
4. Although he invited me to the party.
5. Must be out of the apartment by this time tomorrow.
6. I know the way to the downtown shopping area.
7. The book with the World War II pictures.
8. After trying to convince them all morning.
9. Gum chewing is not allowed.
10. At another time, perhaps in another era.

21.4 **Avoiding Run-ons (Two Kinds of Run-ons)****• Practice 2****Exercise 1** Recognizing Run-ons. Write *S* for complete sentences and *RO* for run-ons.**EXAMPLE:** Her horse fell, she landed in a ditch. RO

1. A comedy of manners usually deals with the behavior of people these witty plays are often about middle- and upper-class men and women. _____
2. The Johnstown Flood was brought about by the collapse of the Conemaugh Reservoir in Pennsylvania, it occurred during a period of very heavy rainfall. _____
3. In an attempt to correct the leak, he actually caused much more damage. _____
4. Beethoven's Seventh Symphony has often been called the *Dance Symphony*, the composer himself conducted the first performance of it in Vienna in 1813. _____
5. A highlight of a trip through the coastal region of Norway is a cruise through the fjords. _____
6. He had read all of Jack London's books the first one was *Call of the Wild*. _____
7. Smoking is now prohibited on airline flights, it is banned in all sections. _____
8. Irrigation was first begun in the United States by the Mormons sometime before the Civil War. _____
9. The storm flooded major highways, motorists were warned to stay at home. _____
10. In 1700 the Natchez Indians lived between the Yazoo and Pearl rivers on the east side of the Mississippi. _____

Exercise 2 Recognizing Run-ons. Write *S* for complete sentences and *RO* for run-ons.**EXAMPLE:** Janice and Marsha shared the biggest bedroom in the house, the two sisters could never agree on a color to paint the walls. RO

1. The diamond is one of the hardest substances in nature, fine cutting and polishing releases its brilliance. _____
2. Four thousand years ago, the people of Babylonia were the first to make New Year's resolutions, and the custom continues to this day. _____
3. It wasn't until the Renaissance that civilized people ate with utensils; until then, people used their hands to put the food into their mouths. _____
4. When eating, Roman peasants would use all five fingers, but those of the upper class used only three fingers, keeping the ring finger and the pinkie clean. _____
5. The word *fork* comes from a Latin word that refers to a farmer's pitchfork, the earliest forks had only two tines. _____
6. The spoon has been in use for at least twenty thousand years, it was especially useful for eating liquids like soup or porridge. _____
7. The small napkins that we use today would not have been big enough in the old days, for people who ate with their hands needed napkins the size of towels. _____
8. The word *bowl* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *bolla*, this word simply means "round". _____
9. Today we use a saucer to hold a cup, but long ago it was a special dish for holding sauces to flavor meats. _____
10. The word *plate* comes from an Old French word, *plat*, which means "flat", we also see this word root in our word *platter*. _____

21.4 Avoiding Run-ons (Three Ways to Correct Run-ons)

• Practice 2

Exercise 1 **Correcting Run-ons.** Rewrite each of the following run-ons, using any of the three methods described in this section. Use each method at least three times.

EXAMPLE: They were in a hurry, the crowd was enormous.
They were in a hurry, but the crowd was enormous.

1. The first rocket launching was unsuccessful the second fulfilled all our expectations.

2. Tell the truth, it is easier than lying.

3. My father watches football, basketball, and baseball on TV my mother prefers to watch comedies, concerts, and documentaries.

4. I think the book itself was poor, the film version was a disaster.

5. The Marquis de Lafayette reached New York on August 16, 1824, he had been invited by President Monroe.

6. I hope to visit Denmark and Sweden this summer, however, I will have to see how expensive it will be.

7. The plants in our garden are not doing well they seem dry and lifeless.

8. Lotteries go back to pre-Revolutionary times, even then they were used to raise money for schools, roads, and bridges.

9. My brothers and I always crave dessert all my parents ever have is black coffee.

10. The first English settlers brought a primary loom to this country, a better Dutch loom with a fly shuttle soon replaced the English loom.

