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# Complete Sentences

**(Sentences, Fragments, & Run-ons)**

I can identify complete,  
incomplete (fragment),  
and run-on sentences.

# Complete sentences

- **Subject & predicate**
  - (Or: subject, verb, and a complete thought)
- **Synonyms:**
  - Independent clause
  - Simple sentence

The fun way to remember:

Complete sentences **are “like” adults**. They have “matured” like grown-ups with everything they need to succeed in life (like a subject AND predicate).

Don’t confuse them with fragments, which don’t have their act together yet (like *children...*)



# Fragments

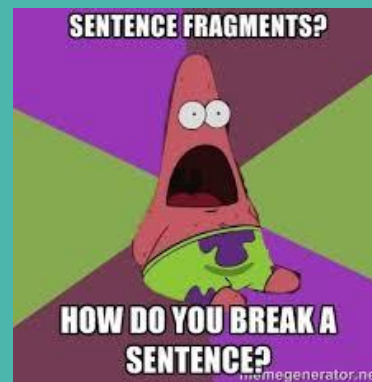
## An umbrella term for anything that's incomplete:

- Phrases/words: subject OR predicate only
- Dependent clauses: subject AND predicate, BUT can't stand alone for some reason (still doesn't express a complete idea)
  - HINT: Look out for AAWWUBBIS words! (Although, after, as, when, while, until, before, because, if, since).
  - If you see an AAWWUBBIS word, that's a sign of a dependent clause!!

## The fun ways to remember:

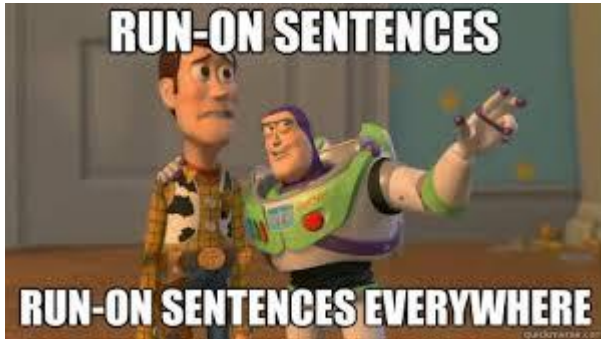
Ever heard the word “fragment” used to describe something that's broken? (Like a fragment of glass?)

Remember from our “adults” metaphor... fragments are like children. They're not “grown up” yet, they don't have all their needed parts, and they can't stand alone (like a complete sentence can!)



# Run-ons

- Two or more complete sentences were incorrectly joined together
- Tried to form a compound sentence (but failed)
- NOT just “a sentence that keeps going for too long...”
- Most likely are missing either a comma OR a **FANBOYS conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)**



The fun way to remember:

If complete sentences are like adults, then compound sentences are like MARRIAGE.

; = the blingy ring you take to Vegas (one marriage option)

Reading is relaxing; writing is exciting.

, FANBOYS = a humble wedding band and a priest

You must have both, or it's a run-on!

Run-on examples:

I like dogs, he likes cats.

I did my homework but I left it at home.

. = Divorce

Separate two sentences (keep them as two simple sentences instead of one compound sentence)

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# Practice

Can YOU label each word group as complete, incomplete (fragment), or a run-on?

1. The red car
  2. running across the field
  3. Since the game started
  4. We are best friends
  5. I forgot to text my mom
  6. We should go study; the test is tomorrow!
  7. Grammar is easy, people just need to memorize the rules.
  8. Run-ons come from compound sentence errors and we should proofread more closely.
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# Practice (Answers)

Can YOU label each word group as complete, incomplete (fragment), or a run-on?

1. The red car (fragment/phrase)
2. running across the field (fragment/phrase)
3. Since the game started (fragment/dependent clause)
4. We are best friends (complete)
5. I forgot to text my mom (complete)
6. We should go study; the test is tomorrow! (complete)
7. Grammar is easy, people just need to memorize the rules. (run-on)
8. Run-ons come from compound sentence errors and we should ~~pre~~proofread more closely. (run-on)