

Sentence Fragments

By: Evgeniya and Katalina

Definition

- A sentence fragment is a part of a sentence that has been punctuated as if it were a complete sentence.
- It does not express a complete thought but depends upon a nearby independent clause for its full meaning.

Correcting Sentence Fragments

- The appropriate correction for sentence fragments depends on what is lacking.
- The sentence can be corrected by adding in a subject or verb, joining the dependent clause with an independent clause, or completing the thought.

Examples:

- INCORRECT: Since I like fishing.
- This is a sentence fragment because it is a dependent clause. “Since” is a conjunction, and this sentence can't be alone. We could correct this sentence by taking out the word “since,” so the sentence would be
- CORRECTION: I like fishing.
- This sentence could also be corrected by joining the dependent clause with an independent clause:
- CORRECTION: I am going to the lake, since I like fishing.

Examples:

- **INCORRECT:** I was not able to pick up my child at her school. *Having been caught in heavy traffic.* (Participial phrase)
- **CORRECTION:** Having been caught in heavy traffic, I was not able to pick up my child at her school.

Mini Quiz!!!!!!!

Pick the sentence fragment in each passage.

Mini Quiz

- 1) Maria wasn't watching her plate of barbecue very carefully. So Santana, the family beagle, snatched a chicken leg hanging over the edge. As baked beans and potato salad slid onto Maria's new sandals.
- 2) Ever since Andre peeked at Melissa's paper during the biology exam. Guilt has consumed him. Even the blueberries floating in his cereal bowl seem like the accusing eyes of Dr. Gregory, his biology instructor.
- 3) James opened the door of his cluttered refrigerator. Which caused a pint of blueberries to fall to the floor. The fruit bounced and rolled everywhere in an explosion of indigo.

Mini Quiz

- 1) Richie loves to walk his friends' dogs at Lake Eola Park. For example Kim's Labrador retriever Murphy or Gary's bulldog Kembo. Beautiful women, Richie has learned, gravitate toward guys with cute dogs.
- 2) Head down, Lela stared at the textbook on her desk. She understood the fragment Practice that Mrs. Markham was going over in class. But was too shy to raise her hand and volunteer an answer.

Answers

- As baked beans and potato salad slid onto Maria's new sandals.
- Ever since Andre peeked at Melissa's paper during the biology exam.
- Which caused a pint of blueberries to fall to the floor.
- For example Kim's Labrador retriever Murphy or Gary's bulldog Kembo.
- But was too shy to raise her hand and volunteer an answer.

The End!!!!