Lesson 31
Sentence Fragments

A sentence fragment is an incomplete sentence. It may lack a subject, a verb, or both. Alternatively, it may be a subordinate clause that cannot stand alone. Correct it by adding the missing phrase or words.

Although he bought the tie for his brother. (Fragment)
Although he bought the tie for his brother, he kept it for himself. (Sentence)

Exercise 1 Write frag. next to each sentence fragment. Write s next to each complete sentence.

frag. In the event of a disaster.
_____ 1. Georgia O’Keeffe became one of the best-loved American artists.
_____ 2. Because she had an innovative style.
_____ 3. Works from charcoals to watercolors to pastels.
_____ 4. O’Keeffe, feeling that her creations were personal, kept to herself.
_____ 5. By distancing herself from historians, biographers, and critics.
_____ 6. She developed a very individual style.
_____ 7. Which became apparent in 1915.
_____ 8. O’Keeffe studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and the Arts Students League in New York.
_____ 9. Her works soon came to the attention of Alfred Stieglitz, a photographer and art exhibitor.
_____ 10. In 1917, O’Keeffe had her first art show at the New York gallery owned by Stieglitz.
_____ 11. Whom she later married.
_____ 12. Paintings of flowers, some of her most famous works.
_____ 13. Appeared in the mid-1920s.
_____ 14. She created many paintings that were based on the American Southwest.
_____ 15. Where she first visited in 1929.
_____ 17. The Pelvis Series includes some of her best work.
_____ 18. A series of paintings of animal bones against stark backgrounds.
19. O’Keeffe’s art helped to bridge the gap between American and European art of the early twentieth century.


**Exercise 2** Tell whether you would add a subject (s), verb (v), or a main clause (m) to form a complete sentence.

- **v** A blue bus carrying fifteen adults and four children.
- **1.** As if he were in a daze.
- **2.** Each year thousands of crops lost to flooding.
- **3.** How to spell the words for the test.
- **4.** Advised against eating fatty foods.
- **5.** A heart doctor known as a cardiologist.
- **6.** Charges no admission for students.
- **7.** Since we forgot our skis.
- **8.** The Smiths installing a security system in their home.
- **9.** Which the school paper published.
- **10.** Animals from the city zoo arriving this afternoon.
- **11.** Warned us not to swim right after eating.
- **12.** Are living in mobile homes until their houses are rebuilt.
- **13.** A child singing in the chorus.
- **14.** Gives the user plenty of information.
- **15.** Because I cannot be at the meeting.
- **16.** A chocolate cookie melting in the sun.
- **17.** Every year plants trees near the school.
- **18.** Although I bought the gift for Trisha.
- **19.** Requires permission from a parent or guardian.
- **20.** Hiking on lichen-covered rocky slopes.
- **21.** Stir the hard-packed prairie soil.
- **22.** A squirrel monkey pouncing on insects.
- **23.** Include the prevention of water-runoff pollution.
- **24.** One of the most livable cities in the country.
Lesson 32
Run-on Sentences

A run-on sentence contains two or more complete sentences written as one.

Incorrect: There was a mistake on our bill, the server took care of it. (two main clauses separated by a comma instead of a period)

Correct: There was a mistake on our bill. The server took care of it. (Break up with a period or semicolon.)

Incorrect: I ran into Margaret she is leaving for Florida tomorrow. (two main clauses with no punctuation between them)

Correct: I ran into Margaret; she is leaving for Florida tomorrow. (Break up with a period or semicolon.)

Exercise 1 Write run-on next to each run-on sentence.

Prizes encourage excellence one particular prize is the Pulitzer Prize.

1. The Pulitzer Prize is awarded each year, it awards excellence in journalism, letters, and music.

2. The awards were established by the powerful publisher Joseph Pulitzer.

3. Pulitzer owned the St. Louis Post-Dispatch he purchased the New York World in 1883.

4. Pulitzer helped to shape the modern newspaper.

5. He added many features to his newspapers, including sports, comics, fashions, and illustrations.

6. Pulitzer’s papers also gained a reputation for sensational reporting.

7. Pulitzer left money to Columbia University the awards were established in 1917.

8. In addition to establishing the awards, his money funded a school of journalism for Columbia.

9. Pulitzer planned four awards for journalism and four for letters more categories were added later.

10. The letters category includes drama, poetry, history, biography or autobiography, fiction, and general nonfiction.

11. The Pulitzer Prizes for journalism are given for work that appears in U.S. newspapers.

12. Each prize is $1,000, except the prize for public service, which is a gold medal.
13. Anyone may make a nomination, the nomination must include the work.

14. Following a preliminary judging, the candidates are judged by an advisory board.

15. The advisory board can nominate other candidates.

16. Works with American themes seem to be preferred.

17. The winning names are given to Columbia University trustees.

18. Pulitzer’s career was ended by his failing health he had paved the way for future journalists.


20. The Pulitzer Prize is a highly regarded honor, it signifies great achievement.

**Exercise 2** Write run-on next to each run-on sentence.

Joan went to the bank Chris waited at home.

1. Pearl Buck won a Pulitzer Prize in 1932 she was a novelist.

2. Pearl spent much of her childhood in China because her parents were missionaries.

3. After attending Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, she returned to China and became a teacher.

4. Pearl Buck wrote many stories about Chinese life, she did not achieve success until 1931 when *The Good Earth* was published.

5. This work was recognized with a Pulitzer Prize, she continued to write novels.

6. *The House of Earth* is a trilogy composed of *The Good Earth*, *Sons*, and *A House Divided*.

7. In 1935, Pearl Buck moved back to the United States she started writing biographies at this time, as well.

8. The following year, she published biographies of her mother and father.

9. She worked on many projects, she wrote short stories, an autobiography, and more novels.

10. Pearl Buck also wrote novels under the pen name of John Sedges.