



Transcription of

## Sentence Fragments and Run-ons

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Today we're going to talk about one of my all time favorite grammar topics, which is complete sentences, including fragments and run-ons. And I love this because it's really fun to discuss, but also because it's one of my personal pet peeves with grammar and run-ons just drive me crazy. So today we're going to talk about how to identify a complete sentence, an incomplete sentence or fragment and a run on sentence.

First, let's review what a complete sentences even is. You know, a sentence is complete if it has both a subject and a predicate. Some people like to say the same thing by calling it a subject, a verb and a complete thought. So whether you use a two part checklist or a three part checklist, either way is fine. It will mean the same thing.

Some synonyms would be an independent clause or a simple sentence. Independent clause, simple sentence and complete sentence all mean the same thing. It's just one lone sentence that can stand by itself. It's a fun way to remember this is to think of complete sentences being like adults. Remember this simile if you can. Complete sentences have matured like grown ups.

Do they have everything they need to succeed in life? They can stand alone and live on their own. Don't confuse it. Complete tense with a fragment. Fragments

don't have their act together yet. Kind of like children who can't stand on their own and still depend on their parents. So let's talk about that.

The term fragment is technically a word that means more than one thing. It's an umbrella term for anything that's incomplete. Fragments can include phrases or even individual words. If a group of words has just a subject or just a predicate, then it's definitely a fragment and it's a phrase. The other big type of fragment is a dependent clause.

Unlike independent clauses, a dependent one can't stand on its own. It does have a subject in predicate, but something is wrong with it and it can't stand alone for some reason. Maybe it doesn't express a complete idea yet. Maybe words are missing one hint to remember or find dependent clauses is to look out for a dubious words or also known as subordinating conjunctions.

AAAWWUBBIS is an acronym that stands for although after as when while until before. Because if since whenever you see in a will this word that's a dead giveaway that there is a dependent clause going on and therefore that chunk of words can't stand by itself. It's a fragment. If all that grammar is hard to think about, remember our adult metaphor Fragments are like children.

They're not grown up yet. They don't have all their needed parts to succeed in life, and they can't stand alone. Another way to remember is to think about the word fragment, how it's normally used in the real world to describe stuff that's broken. For example, if you've ever heard of a fragment of glass after you've shattered a mirror or a window, then you know that a fragment is a broken piece.

It's just one tiny part of the original whole, and it's not the same anymore. And our third topic with complete sentences is run-ons. And here's where it starts to get a little fun. Run-ons are when we have two or more complete sentences and we try to put them together into one sentence. But we did it wrong.

It's two sentences that were joined together incorrectly. They tried to form a compound sentence but failed. Now, a lot of people like to say, Oh, a run on is just a sentence that keeps going for too long. And it goes on and on and on forever. But that's wrong. That definition is not grammatically correct. It's, again, two or more sentences that were joined together incorrectly.

Most run-ons are the same type. Most of them are missing either a comma or a fanboys, conjunctions, fanboys or coordinating conjunctions are for and nor but or yet so or fanboys. So that's the official way to remember run-ons. But if you

need a fun way to think about it, remember that there's more than one way to make a compound sentence.

And compound sentences are kind of like marriage. If you've got two complete sentences that are like adults and think they belong together, you can marry them into a compound sentence in one of three ways. Your first way is to put a semicolon between the two sentences. Now, if you squint a little bit, I think semicolons look a little bit like a diamond.

And then a wedding band beneath it. So I think of semicolons as that big blingy diamond that you could take to Vegas and get married with. Here's an example sentence Reading is relaxing. Semicolon writing is exciting, period. These are two independent clauses, and each half of the overall sentence is its own sentence that has been joined at the other one with a semicolon.

Your second option is to do a comma in a fanboys word, and I like thinking about this like it's a plain little wedding band and a priest or rabbi or a judge or whatever you want. It doesn't have to be a priest, obviously. But the important part is to have both a plain wedding band and an officiant of some kind, because if you have just one and not the other, that's a run on.

And this is where most run and come from. For example, I could put a ring on anybody, but it doesn't mean we're married. Maybe it's just a friendship me ring or means that we're just engaged. Also, I could walk up to any judge or officiant tomorrow and ask him or her to marry us. But that person is always going to ask for a ring in the ceremony.

So you have to have both. Or it could be a run on. Here are two examples of run-ons in this first run on. There's a comma, but a fanboys word. And the second word of the second sentence, there's a fanboys word, but no comma. Now, technically, you can always just keep two sentences separate and you could divorce them with a period so you don't have to make a compound sentence.

You can always keep them separate, but that's sometimes less fun, especially if we want a sentence variety. So this metaphor of marriage, again, is just one of many ways to think about how runners work and how to prevent them in a successful compound sentence.

Here's just a little bit of practice to make sure we've all got it. Look at these eight word groups and let's decide if they are complete, incomplete or none. Number one, the red car. That is just a phrase. It's a fragment. Because I have a topic or a

subject. I've got the red car, but there's no action or verb, so there's no predicate and it can't stand on its own.

Running across the field is similar, but the opposite. I've got a predicate. I've got an action, but no subject. So since the game started, doesn't that kind of leave you hanging or you waiting for me to keep going? Yep. This AWU, this word, since takes a subject and predicate and makes it dependent after all. So this is just a fragment.

And before we are best friends, that's fine. That's a complete sentence all by itself. I have a subject and I have a predicate. I've got my verb expresses incomplete thought. It's fine. Same thing with number five. I forgot to text. My mom is also a complete sense. No problems. We should go study semicolon. The test is tomorrow. Those are two complete sentences that have been correctly joined with a semicolon.

So it is not a run on number six is just fine. Seven Grammar is easy. People just need to memorize the rules. This is actually a run on because I've got a comma, but no fanboys were to go with it. Number eight Ronan's come from compound sentence errors and we should proofread more closely, which is kind of ironic because number eight is a run on it's a compound sentence that went badly.

We should have a comma right here to go with the fanboys word and and then we would be fine. Thank you for watching and feel free to rewatch this video again if you still don't understand the concept or need a little bit more help.